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Man killed for post backing Nupur Sharma

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Two persons beheaded a 40-year-old man at his tailoring shop in Udaipur city on Tuesday. The victim, Kanhaiya Lal, had shared posts in support of suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma, who had made offensive remarks against the Prophet. The NIA is likely to take over the probe.

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS ▸ PAGE 11

50 migrants dead in Texas truck tragedy

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN ANTONIO

The U.S. police on Tuesday were investigating the grim discovery of 50 bodies of migrants in and around a trailer truck abandoned in sweltering heat near the Texas city of San Antonio, with victims identified as from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras. The White House called the tragedy "absolutely horrific and heartbreaking".

OPPORTUNITIES ▸ PAGE 4

BJP seeks floor test in House, CM makes fresh plea to rebels

Uddhav requests MLAs in Guwahati to come for talks

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

The Opposition BJP on Tuesday night requested Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari to order a floor test in the Assembly, hours after Shiv Sena president and Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray made another emotional appeal to rebel MLAs stationed in Guwahati to come for discussions.

Mr. Thackeray said he still cared for them and was ready to find a way out of the present situation by talking to them personally.

The BJP delegation led by Leader of the Opposition Devendra Fadnavis, along with senior leaders Ashish Shelar, Chandrakant Patil and Pravin Darekar, late on Tuesday night met the Governor and urged him to ask the Thackeray government to prove majority at the earliest.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Mr. Fadnavis said, "Around 39 Shiv Sena MLAs have stated that they no longer want to remain with the Maha Vikas Aghadi [MVA] government. It means that the present government has lost its majority in the House. We requested the Governor to call an Assembly session at the earliest."

The meeting happens few hours after Mr. Fadnavis returned from Delhi after holding talks with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J.P. Nadda.

In his appeal to the rebel MLAs, Mr. Thackeray said: "I appeal to all of you to come and sit in front of me and clarify all confusion in the minds of Sena workers and people. There will surely be a way out and we will do it together. Do not fall prey to anyone's false promises."

Around 39 MLAs have joined rebel leader and party's second-in-command Eknath Shinde. The group is demanding that Mr. Thackeray quit the MVA coalition comprising the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Congress.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

> I appeal to all of you to come and sit in front of me and clarify all confusion in the minds of Sena workers and people. There will surely be a way out and we will do it together... You will never get the honour that the Sena bestowed upon you. I still care for you as the Sena family head
>
> UDDHAV THACKERAY, Maharashtra CM and Shiv Sena chief

Shinde says he has support of 50 MLAs

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Rebel Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde on Tuesday claimed that he had the support of 50 MLAs and would soon return to Mumbai.

Speaking in Guwahati, Mr. Shinde, along with other Sena MLAs in his camp, including Uday Samant, emphatically said they were still in the Shiv Sena and that their actions were aimed at preserving the party and the 'Hindutva' ideals of late Sena founder Bal Thackeray.

He rejected Maharashtra Minister Aaditya Thackeray's claim that 15 to 20 MLAs in the rebel faction had alleged they had been "abducted" and that they had reached out to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's camp to bring them back to Mumbai.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

Sports conclave

Dr. Malini Parthasarathy, Chairperson, THG Publishing Pvt. Ltd., presenting a memento to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin at the Sportstar South Sports Conclave in Chennai on Tuesday in the presence of *The Hindu* CEO L.V. Navaneeth, former world chess champion Viswanathan Anand and Sportstar Editor Ayon Sengupta. • M. VEDHAN (REPORTS ON PAGES 15, 16)

G7 to cap Russia's income from oil sales

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ELMAU

Leaders of the world's wealthiest democracies struck a united stance to support Ukraine for "as long as it takes" as Russia's invasion grinds on, and said they would explore far-reaching steps to cap Kremlin income from oil sales that are financing the war.

The final statement on Tuesday from the Group of Seven (G7) summit in Germany underlined their intent to impose "severe and immediate economic costs" on Russia.

It left out key details on how the fossil fuel price caps would work in practice, setting up more discussion in the weeks ahead to "explore" measures to bar imports of Russian oil above a certain level.

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to our unprecedented coordination on sanctions for as long as necessary, acting in unison at every stage," the leaders of the U.S., Germany, France, Italy, the U.K., Canada and Japan said.

THE HINDU

Text & Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Credit card spending

1.13 In ₹ lakh crore, the amount spent by credit card holders in India in the month of May compared to the ₹1.05 lakh crore spent in April according to the latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The month-on-month rise in spending through cards indicates a pick-up in economic activity. Data also showed that 7.68 crore credit card holders spent about ₹71,429 crore shopping online while the amount paid through swipes at Point of Sale (PoS) machines stood at ₹42,266 crore in May. PTI

Fact checking

54 The percentage of people who turn to social media when looking for factual information in India, according to a global study by the Oxford University Press (OUP). The research-led campaign 'The Matter of Fact' looked at the level of understanding of how truths are identified and sources validated. The findings show that 37% of the global population turn to social media when looking for factual information. Britons were less likely to look for facts using social media, with only 16% describing it as a preferred source. PTI

Criminal records of MPs

31 The percentage of sitting Rajya Sabha MPs who have declared criminal cases against themselves, according to a report released by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and the National Election Watch. The report also stated that the average assets of the Upper House members are ₹79.54 crore. The report has analysed the criminal, financial and other background details of 226 out of the 233 sitting MPs. Of the 226 members, 71 have declared criminal cases against themselves and 37 have declared serious criminal cases. PTI

Civilian deaths

3.06 In lakh, the number of civilians killed in Syria in the last ten years since the conflict began — the highest official estimate to date of conflict-related civilian deaths in the country, according to the United Nations. Syria's conflict began with anti-government protests in March 2011, demanding democratic reforms. However, it quickly turned into a full-blown civil war. The protests were preceded by the Arab Spring uprising in Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Libya and Bahrain. AP

Peak in power demand

7,601 In megawatts (MW), the record high power demand in Delhi on Tuesday afternoon, due to the prevailing humid and warm weather in the city, as per data by the State Load Dispatch Centre. The previous high in Delhi was recorded at 7,409 MW on July 2, 2019. Delhi's peak power demand had never crossed the 7,000 MW mark during June until this year. According to estimates, around 50% of Delhi's power demand in summers is because of the cooling load from air-conditioners and fans. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

China's interventions in the Horn of Africa

Is Beijing moving away from its policy of non-intervention in Africa? How are different African states reacting to these developments?

THE GIST

- In January 2022, during his 17th trip to Africa, China's Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi asserted China's three main objectives in Africa: controlling the pandemic, implementing a Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) outcomes, and upholding common interests while fighting hegemonic politics.
- Africa has been keen on interacting with China. Despite accusations of debt-trapping surrounding China's projects in Africa, the governments have mostly been welcoming.
- China's move "to play a role in the area of security" in Africa indicates a shift in its principle of non-intervention. It is China's message that its presence in the continent has a larger objective and is not likely to be limited to the Horn of Africa.

APOORVA SUDHAKAR
AVISHKA ASHOK

The story so far: China has been investing across the African continent throughout the last decade. While the emphasis has been on investments and raw materials, it took a new turn on June 20, with the first "China-Horn of Africa Peace, Governance and Development Conference." Beijing's first special envoy to the region Xue Bing, appointed in February 2022, said that this is the first time China aims "to play a role in the area of security". The conference held in Ethiopia witnessed the participation of foreign Ministries from the following countries of the Horn: Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda.

What are the recent projects between China and countries from the Horn of Africa?

China's focus on the Horn is a part of its focus on Africa. In January 2022, during his 17th trip to Africa, China's Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi focused on increasing the infrastructural investments in African countries. He refuted accusations of debt-trapping the countries and asserted China's three objectives in Africa: controlling the pandemic, implementing a Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) outcomes, and upholding common interests while fighting hegemonic politics.

China's interests in the Horn of Africa are related to four major areas: infrastructural projects, financial assistance, natural resources and maritime interests

The FOCAC promotes China's role in the infrastructural and societal development of the Horn. In the 2021 forum, the entire region of the Horn participated and four resolutions were adopted: the Dakar Action Plan, the China-Africa Cooperation Vision 2035, the Sino-African Declaration on Climate Change and the Declaration of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of FOCAC.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, China donated over 3,00,000 vaccines to Ethiopia and Uganda, and 2,00,000 vaccines to Kenya and Somalia. Sudan and Eritrea have also benefited from China's vaccine diplomacy.

Beijing has also initiated the "2035 vision for China-Africa cooperation"; it aims to transform the health sector, alleviate poverty, promote trade and investments, and expand digital innovation. The vision also focuses on green development, capacity building, improving people-to-people exchanges and facilitating peace and security in the continent.

What are China's primary interests/investments in the Horn of Africa?

China's interests are related to four major areas: infrastructural projects, financial assistance, natural resources and maritime interests. Looking at Chinese investments in infrastructure, one of its landmark projects was fully funding the $200 million African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa. It has also made significant investments in railways; it is building the Addis-Djibouti railway line connecting the land-locked country with Eritrean ports in the Red Sea. China has also invested in the Mombasa-Nairobi rail link in Kenya, and has already delivered on railway projects in Sudan. It also has a viable military hardware market in Ethiopia and has built over 80 infrastructural projects in Somalia, including hospitals, roads, schools and stadiums. In Djibouti, 14 infrastructural projects are funded by China.

With respect to financial assistance, Ethiopia, is one of the top five African recipients of Chinese investments, and also has a debt of almost $14 billion. China accounts for 67% of Kenya's bilateral debt. In 2022, China promised to provide $15.7 million assistance to Eritrea.

The third major Chinese interest in Africa is the presence of natural resources – oil and coal. Beijing has invested $400 million in Mombasa's oil terminal. China is also interested in minerals such as gold, iron-ore, precious stones, chemicals, oil and natural gas in Ethiopia. South Sudan, a source for petroleum products, has had continued Beijing investment in the industry since the latter's initial entry in 1995.

The fourth major area is related to maritime interests. China's first and only military base outside its mainland is in Djibouti. During his visit in early 2022, Wang hinted at China's willingness to develop Eritrea's coast which would connect to China's investments in land-locked Ethiopia. The U.S. has speculated that China wishes to build another military base in Kenya and Tanzania, thereby increasing its military presence in the region.

Has the Horn of Africa been welcoming of China's presence?

Africa has been keen on interacting with China. Despite the wariness surrounding China's projects in Africa, the governments have mostly been welcoming. When conflict broke out in Tigray in November 2020, Addis Ababa appreciated Beijing for respecting Ethiopia's sovereignty. In December 2021, Kenya defended Chinese projects in the country; President Uhuru Kenyatta maintained that China-Africa partnership was mutually beneficial. In November 2021, Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni suggested that China give access to its markets, in a fashion similar to the U.S. or Europe.

Similarly, in May 2022, the East African Community (EAC) Secretary General Peter Mathuki said the EAC would welcome Chinese investors to work in East Africa for the prosperity of the people.

Is China's new focus on peace in the Horn a shift from Beijing's principle of non-intervention?

Peace and stability is a mutual requirement for China and Africa. For Africa, Chinese investments could lead to stable environments which could help the countries achieve their peace and development objectives. For China, conflict in the region comes at a heavy cost. In Ethiopia. when the conflict broke out, over 600 Chinese nationals, working on different projects, were evacuated, putting several investments at risk. From a trading perspective, the region plays a significant role in achieving the objectives of the China-Africa Cooperation Vision 2035.

China's move towards peace in Africa indicates a shift in its principle of non-intervention. It is China's message that its presence in the continent has a larger objective and is not likely to be limited to the Horn of Africa. This includes an aim to project itself as a global leader and boost its international status. Further, the recent developments imply that China is focussing on a multifaceted growth in the continent for the long run. For Africa, China's presence is an alternative to the European powers, many of whom are facing criticism from African governments. Further, African governments, which do not conform to Western standards of democracy, interact better with powers like China and Russia.

The authors are research associates at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru

Greener pastures: China's first special envoy to the Horn of Africa, Xue Bing, speaks at a press conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on June 20. • AP

EXPLAINER

The G7 plan to counter the Belt and Road initiative

How is the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment going to enhance development in low and middle income countries?

DIKSHA MUNJAL

The story so far: On June 26, U.S. President Joe Biden along with his G7 allies unveiled the ambitious Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), announcing the collective mobilisation of $600 billion by 2027 to deliver "game-changing" and "transparent" infrastructure projects to developing and middle-income countries. The PGII is being seen as the G7's counter to China's multi-trillion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to build connectivity, infrastructure, and trade projects in Asia, Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

What is the PGII?

The West has been sceptical of the BRI, since it was launched in 2013 by President Xi Jinping, as it was considered to be part of China's larger strategy to increase geopolitical influence in Asia and other developing countries. The U.S., along with G7 partners the U.K., Japan, France, Canada, Germany, Italy, and the European Union (EU), had in 2021 announced the launch of the Build Back Better World (B3W) with the aim of narrowing the $40 trillion infrastructure gap in the developing world. PGII is therefore, a relaunch of Mr. Biden's B3W plan.

The factsheet put out by the White House described the PGII as a "values-driven, high-impact, and transparent infrastructure partnership to meet the enormous infrastructure needs of low and middle-income countries and support the United States' and its allies' economic and national security interests". The G7 members aim to collectively mobilise $600 billion by 2027 to invest in sustainable and quality infrastructure projects in developing countries, including India, and strengthen global supply chains. Mr. Biden announced the country's pledge to channel $200 billion in grants, public financing, and private capital over the next five years for the PGII. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen declared Europe's pledge of mobilising 300 billion euros for the partnership over the same period.

What kind of projects will the PGII undertake?

All PGII projects will be driven by "four priority pillars that will define the second half of the 21st century". First, the G7 grouping aims to tackle the climate crisis and ensure global energy security through clean energy supply chains. Second, the projects will focus on bolstering digital information and communications technology (ICT) networks facilitating technologies such as 5G and 6G internet connectivity and cybersecurity. Third, the projects aim to advance gender equality and equity, and lastly, to build and upgrade global health

infrastructure.

Mr Biden announced the flagship projects for PGII that have either commenced or are set to begin. The U.S International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), along with the G7 nations and the EU are disbursing a $3.3 million technical assistance grant to build a vaccine facility in Senegal, having a potential yearly capacity of manufacturing "millions of doses of COVID-19 and other vaccines". Ms. Leyen said that the European Commission's Global Gateway initiative is also undertaking projects supporting the PGII such as mRNA vaccine plants in Latin America and a fibre-optic cable linking Europe to Latin America among others.

In India, the U.S. DFC will invest up to $30 million in Omnivore Agritech and Climate Sustainability Fund 3, an impact venture capital fund that invests in entrepreneurs building the future of agriculture, food systems, climate, and rural economy in India.

How does it compare to China's BRI?

The Belt and Road project was started to revive connectivity, trade, and infrastructure along what was China's ancient Silk Road. China had announced a two-pronged approach of building a Silk Road Economic Belt on Land and a maritime 21st century Silk Road. The project initially aimed to strengthen connectivity with Southeast Asia but later expanded to South and Central Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America, with Mr. Xi saying it would "break the bottleneck in Asian connectivity".

The G7 meanwhile has specifically touted the PGII as a values-based plan to help underfunded low and middle-income countries meet their infrastructure needs. PGII has laid focus on climate action and clean energy, while China has built large coal-fired plants under BRI along with solar, hydro, and wind energy projects. While the G7 has pledged $600 billion by 2027, Morgan and Stanly estimate that China's overall funding for BRI by that time could reach $1.2 to 1.3 trillion dollars with the actual funding being higher. Under the PGII, large private capital will be also mobilised while China's BRI is majorly state-funded.

Besides, the BRI was also launched at a time when China's local construction firms were short of projects in developed Chinese provinces. Studies have shown that 89% of the contractors participating in BRI projects are Chinese. According to Engineering News Record's 2019 data, seven out of the world's 10 biggest construction contractors based on foreign revenue were Chinese. Large number of Chinese workers are employed in BRI projects; for instance 1.82 lakh were working in Africa by late 2019.

While G7 leaders emphasised 'transparency' as the cornerstone of PGII projects, the BRI has faced criticism for making countries sign confidential tenders for extending massive loans, leaving countries indebted to China. For instance, after the BRI's flagship $62 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Pakistan owes Beijing a large proportion of its foreign debt.

China builds BRI's projects by extending large, low-interest loans to countries that have to usually be paid over 10 years. There have been cases of debt-saddled countries failing to repay on time. Sri Lanka, for instance, had to cede its key Hambantota Port on a 99-year lease to China. Mr. Biden has said meanwhile, that PGII aims to build projects through grants and investments.

A PGII project has already been announced in India but India had opted out of China's BRI, being wary of Beijing's aim to increase its influence in the Indian Ocean Region by roping in Pakistan as a major BRI recipient.

THE GIST

- On June 26, U.S. President Joe Biden along with his G7 allies unveiled the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), largely seen as a counter to China's multi-trillion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- All PGII projects will be driven by "four priority pillars that will define the second half of the 21st century". Tackling the climate crisis and ensuring global energy security, bolstering digital information and ICT networks, promoting gender equality and equity, and lastly, to build and upgrade the global health infrastructure.
- A PGII project has been announced in India. On the other hand, India has stayed away from China's BRI, being wary of Beijing's aim to increase its influence in the Indian Ocean Region.

Main hurdle to run MEMU train to KIA cleared

KPTCL replaces hazardous transmission line over Yelahanka-Devanahalli rail track

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

All decks have been cleared for MEMU trains to run on the electrified track between Yelahanaka and Devanahalli, which also connects Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), and services to KIA will begin soon.

The presence of transmission lines of the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL) over the Yelahanka-Devanahalli rail track near Settigere had posed safety issues to operate MEMU trains. The KPTCL has finally removed it and replaced it with a new one by heightening the line, over six months after the issue was flagged.

The line which was 8.6 metres high has now been heightened to 18.5 metres. The issue of heightening the transmission line had remained unresolved for over six months because property owners had not given consent for right of way and were demanding more compensation. In mid-June, the KPTCL managed to complete the works.

The KPTCL has built a new transmission line over the Yelahanka-Devanahalli railway track. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Bengaluru Division South Western Railway (SWR) Shyam Singh said shortly, MEMU trains will operate on the line. "Due to safety issues, we could not run MEMU trains on the newly electrified line. The presence of the old transmission line affected our plans for close to six months. Now, with coordination from various agencies, it has been resolved. The SWR will run the MEMU after doing the necessary tests," he said. However, he said while two pairs of DEMU are being operated on the line at present, the response was poor. In January 2021, the SWR started commercial operation of the halt station built near the boundary wall of the airport campus. Initially, five pairs of train services were provided. However, the patronage was very poor. Issues with train schedules, punctuality of services, and apprehension of not reaching the airport in time were some of the reasons. There were instances of only one or two passengers using the train to the KIA halt station.

The SWR suspended the train services for six months to take up maintenance work, while curtailing services due to the pandemic also played a role in not getting good patronage. "It is sad that the new halt station remains underutilised. Running trains with frequency will help air passengers and employees. More trains should be introduced during morning and evening hours," said Anil Kumar, who travels to KIA.

Rescheduling of train services on the cards

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Following poor response to DEMU trains, the South Western Railway has consulted the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) on revising the train timings in the future. "Based on the flight arrivals and departures and shift hours of employees working on the airport campus, we have received suggestions from the BIAL to run the trains. We are examining them and exploring the possibility of running trains," DRM of Bengaluru Division South Western Railway Shyam Singh said said. On June 21, the officials had conducted trial run on the electrified line.

When the train services were first introduced, it was projected that other than air-passengers, more than 25,000 employees working on the campus of the airport would benefit. However, that did not happen. The train service is an economical option compared to buses, taxis, or using private vehicles to reach the airport that is located 35 to 40 km away from the city points. A one-way ticket to the KIA halt station ranges between ₹10 and ₹15. On June 21, the officials conducted trial run on the electrified line.

Significant line

The Yelahanka-Devanahalli-Chickballapur electrified railway line is also a significant line for heritage, as many heritage station structures Doddajala, Devenahalli, Avathihalli, and Nandi are located on the line. Renovation work of Doddajala station is nearing completion.

HC warns BBMP of 'harsh order' for delay in finalising contract to fix potholes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Castigating officers of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for delay in finalising contract to fill potholes based on mutually agreed rate, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday they would face a "harsh order" from the court if the issue is not settled by Thursday.

The court also directed the BBMP Chief Commissioner and other officers in charge of pothole-filling works to be personally present in the court on June 30, the next date of hearing.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum made the oral observations during the hearing of a PIL petition on the issue of poor maintenance of city roads.

As the BBMP counsel said that the civic body is in the process of finalising agreement with the contractor at a rate of ₹598 per sq.ft, the court said that such a delay is unacceptable as it had on June 6 directed the BBMP to finalise the contract.

At one stage, the Bench orally observed that it may have to direct the State government to place the Chief Commissioner of the BBMP under suspension for the delay and may have to handover pothole filling exercise to an outside agency. The Bench also noted that the BBMP had failed to submit report on survey of roads for pothole along with the agency identified to carry out the repair works.

The Bench granted time till June 30 after the BBMP counsel assured the court that the contract would be submitted before the court within a day.

Mentally-challenged boy drowns in sump

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 15-year-old mentally-challenged boy drowned in a sump of an under-construction building while playing in front of his house in Muneshwara Layout of Vaderahalli on Monday night.

The deceased has been identified as Sai Sharan, son of Raju, a tailor residing in Muneshwara Layout. According to the Vidyaranyapura police, Sharan had gone out of the house to play around 5.30 p.m.. His parents went in search of him since he didn't return home for a long time.

At around 8 p.m., the family found his body near the water sump of the building. The sump was left open, and Sharan is suspected to have slipped while playing, a police officer said.

The building belonging to Renuka Srinivas has been under construction for the last 15 months. Based on the complaint of the parents, the police have taken up a case of negligence against the owner.

BDA recovers land worth ₹100 crore in HBR Layout

In a drive on Tuesday, 15 structures, including commercial establishments and sheds, were cleared in HBR Layout. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) cleared encroachment 'worth ₹100 crore' on its land in HBR Layout.

In a drive on Tuesday, 15 structures, including commercial establishments and sheds, have been cleared. The recovered land measuring 1.25 acres of land was acquired by the authority for the formation of HBR second phase layout in 1989. The survey number 75 had six acres of land out of which one-and-a-half acres of land was provided for building the outer ring road, and owners of the property allegedly did not part with the rest of the four and half acres of land.

The previous owners had approached the courts, including the Karnataka High Court, challenging acquisition of the land by the BDA. The court orders was in favour of the authority. A press release from the BDA stated that the previous owners had built commercial establishments and sheds and were generating revenue out of them.

For the demolition of illegal structures, 15 landmovers were used. Close to 200 police personnel were deployed for protection. The release said that though efforts were made to clear encroachments in the past, the owners managed to stop them by exerting pressure on officials and also protested against the officials.

BDA chairman S.R. Vishwanath said thousands of crore worth land of the authority had been encroached upon across the city. He asked the encroachers to voluntarily clear the land or face action.

IN THE COURT OF THE II ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU RURAL
P & SC No. 29/2022

BETWEEN: Shri Ayyanagouda S/o Timmanagouda Patil, aged about 80 years, Occ: Retired Govt. Service, R/o. #37, Jayanagar, Vidyanagar, Hubballi-580021. ... **Petitioner**

AND: Nil ... Respondent

PETITION UNDER SECTION 276 OF THE INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT,1925

Whereas the petitioner has applied for Probate Certificate for the purpose of change of Katha into his name in respect of the Schedule Properties mentioned hereunder, left behind by Sri. Vijay @ Vijaya who is the son of the Petitioner and who passed away on 16-5-2021, as per the Will dated 30-03-2021.

Anybody interested in or having objections if any for grant of Probate Certificate are hereby notified to attend II Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bengaluru Rural, at Bengaluru at 11-00 a.m. on **29-07-2022** to file objections if any failing which, the above Petition will be heard and determined experte.

SCHEDULE

Item No.1: Revenue Survey no. 91/2 measuring 04 acres and 00 guntas of Bheemanakuppe Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and is bounded as under **North by:** Land belonging to Ramajani and your Land to the extent of 02 acres in Survey No.90/2, along the road, **South by:** Government Halla, **East by:** Road leading from Ramohalli to Bhemanakuppe Village, **West by:** Remaining portion of land in survey no.91 Bheemanakuppe Village, retained by Sri Kalappa and Sri Narasimhaiah.

Item No.2: Shop No. 53, measuring 240 Sq.Ft situated in first floor constructed in CTS No. 2922 of CTS Ward No. 1 of Hubballi Taluk, Dharwad District.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on 23-05-2022.

By order of the Court, Chief administrative Officer, District and Sessions, Bangalore Rural District, Bengaluru.

SHARATH B BELAVIGI, Advocate
No.44, Ground Floor 3rd Stage Judicial Layout, Hejjala, Ramanagar-562 109.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 19/MYS/2022 of 23.06.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Mysuru Division :**	Rs. 5,51,07,200/-
	Collection and supply of machine crushed stone ballast at Railway depot at Amaravathi colony including loading the same into Railway Hoppers / wagons by mechanical means and unloading at various locations over Mysuru Division.	
2	**Sub Work - I :**	Rs. 7,70,44,402/-
	Ashokapuram: Proposed Connecting Road No.4, 5 to Main line at Chamarajanagar End. **Sub Work - I (a):** S&T Accommodation at Ashokapuram station(Relay room and Panel room). **Sub Work - II :** Requirement of Additional work for Ashokapuram Yard Remodelling. **Sub Work - II (a):** Ashokapuram : Proposed construction of New PF between Road 5 & 6 for a length of 540 mts. **Sub Work - II (b):** Ashokapuram : Provision of IRS PF shelter of 16.0m x 9.45 m wide, 5 bays between Road 5 & 6. **Sub Work - II (c):** Ashokapuram : Provision of drinking cistern with 4 water taps at PF No. 2 (2 Nos). **Sub Work - II (d) :** Ashokapuram : Provision of water Hydrant on Road 4 & 5 and 6 & 7. **Sub Work - II (e) :** Ashokapuram : Construction of Store room and 1 Staff rooms of 16.4m x 4.5m for PFTR activity. **Sub Work - II (f) :** Ashokapuram : Construction of compound wall. **Sub Work - II(g) :** Ashokapuram : Construction of side Drain. **Sub Work - II (h) :** Retaining wall at AP yard (80x4.5m). **Sub Work - III** - Extension of PF 1 & 2 & 3 at AP to accommodate 24+1 ICF Coaches. **Sub Work - III (a) :** Ashokapuram : Extension of PF No. 1 for a length of 87.5meters. **Sub Work - III (b) :** Ashokapuram : Extension of PF No. 2 & 3 for a length of 57.5meters. **Sub Work - IV :** Ashokapuram : Extension of FOB.	
3	**Arsikere - Birur (UP) -**	Rs. 87,54,959/-
	TRR(P) from km.165/250-165/350, 165/545-166/342, 202/000-203/000, 203/750-206/000, 207/500-208/400, 210/400-211/800 for a length of 6.447 kms.	
4	**Birur-Talguppa Section:**	Rs. 1,41,23,341/-
	Increasing Sleeper Density on main line from km 45/100 to 53/300 and loop lines (Anandapuram - RD1, Kumsi - RD1 & 3, Sagarajambagaru - RD1, Talguppa - RD1 & 3) for a total length of 13.4 kms.	
5	**Sub Work - I :**	Rs. 1,78,63,305/-
	Kadur - Chikmaglur & Sampige Road - Birur : Increasing Sleeper Density on Loop lines - Chikmaglur - Rd1 & 3, Kanivehalli - RD1, Sakharayapatna - RD1 & 3, Bisilehalli - RD1, Banavar - RD1 & 4, Devanur - RD1 & 4, Ballakere - RD1 & 4, kadur - RD 4 for length of 10.56 kms. **Sub Work - II :** Sampige Road - Birur & Kadur - Chikkamagaluru : SWP to LWR on loop lines for Chikmagalur - RD1 & 3, Kanivehalli - RD1, Sakhrayapatna - RD1 & 3, Bisilehalli - RD1, Banasandra - RD3, Karadi - RD3, Honavalli Road - RD1 & 4, Kadur- RD4 for a length of 10.66 kms	
6	**Mysuru Division :**	Rs. 56,24,774/-
	Chikjajur - Rayadurg Section: Increasing sleeper density (ISD) from km. 40/000-46/000 & 0/000-0/800 (MOMU Rd-3) for a length of 6.8km between Chickjajur - Molkalmuru stations.	

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 15-07-2022
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-Ordination
PUB/181/MAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Mysuru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE KNOWN TO ALL that my client intended to purchase the property bearing Site No.37, measuring East to West 120 feet and North to South(70+50)/2 feet, totally measuring 7200 Sq ft, situated at: **Byrathi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru, East by:** House Site No.44, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Private Property, **South by:** House Site No.38, from its owner Sri.Mukesh Kumar, S/o .Sri.Shiniraj.

If any person or/any has any claim/objection in the matter of the intended sale of the said or any part, thereof, such a person submit his/her property claim/objection with documentary proof thereof to the undersigned in writing within **Ten (10) days** from the date of this notice, failing which it would be presumed that there are no claims/objections and our client shall proceed with the purchase of the said property from the owner.

K.V. PREMA KUMARI B.A.L.L.B
Advocate
(Roll No. KAR/943/2000, Dt: 07/04/2000)
No.25, D.M.Chambers, BEML Lyt, 3rd Stage, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560098

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 07/2022
Dated : 23-06-2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for supply of following items.

Description in Brief : Digital Ultrasonic Double Rail Tester with minimum two base lines coloured signals and A-Scanpulse echo with continous recording of B-scan storage with date set-ups as per RDSO's specification No. RDSO/M&C/NDT/130/2007 (B Scan) Rev. III July 2017 with standard accessories attached to Indent.
(Tender No. L8225589) (Qty : 02 Nos.)

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto **14.00 Hrs on 02-08-2022**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/178/MAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Bengaluru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

GREATER RANCHI DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LIMITED
3rd Floor, Yojna Bhawan, Room No. 303, Nepal House Complex, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand, 834002
CIN: U45203JH2003SGC010045
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
NIB No.: GRDA/Yoj/Rev.MP/01/2022- 01 Date: 27.06.2022
National Competitive Bidding
BID NOTICE

1.	Name of the Work	**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR THE SELECTION OF CONSULTANT FOR THE REVISION OF MASTER PLAN AND PLANNING, DESIGNING & DETAIL ENGINEERING OF ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS OF CORE CAPITAL AREA OF JHARKHAND AT SITE-I, HEC AREA RANCHI.**
2.	Mode of submission of bids	Online Bidding (two bid system)
3.	Bid Fee	Cost of Bid Document: Rs.10,000/- *(Rupees Ten Thousand) only (Non-refundable)*
4.	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In INR)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) – Rs 5,00,000/- *(Rs. Five Lac) only*
5.	Performance Guarantee	5% (in form of Bank Guarantee) 5% (as retention money from each running bill)
6.	Period of consultancy	07 Years
7.	Date of starting of sale of online Bid/Document Download	14.07.2022 at 13.00 Hrs
8.	Date of Start of Submission of online Bids	14.07.2022 at 13.00 Hrs
	Pre-Bid meeting	20.07.2022 at 15.00 Hrs.
	Last Date/Time for submission of online bids	05.08.2022 at 17.00 Hrs
	Last Date/Time for submission of Bid fee and EMD (offline)	05.08.2022 at 17.00 Hrs
	Date of Tech. Bid Opening	05.08.2022 at 17.30 Hrs
	Date of Presentation	To be intimated to shortlisted bidder
	Date of Financial Bid Opening	To be intimated to shortlisted bidder
	Bid fee and EMD submission address	Greater Ranchi Development Agency Ltd, 3rd Floor, Room No. 303, Yojna Bhawan, Nepal House Complex, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand- 834002. E-MAIL: project.grda@gmail.com
	Helpline no.	+ 91 651 2491068/2491084

Note: Only e-Bid will be accepted
Further details are available on Jharkhand Government e-procurement website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
Sd/-
General Manager (P&P)
PR 272568 Urban Development(22-23)D GRDA, Ltd.

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004
Tender Notice No.- PCE/BLW(ET)/Publish/2021-22/Corrigendum Dated-27.06.2022
E-TENDERS

Dy Chief Engineer, Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi on behalf of the President of India issue a Corrigendum No 1 dated 27.06.2022. **S.N.: 1, Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-003-22-23, **Name of Work:** Maintenance of Horticulture Work of Colony, Workshop, ADM Building and Sport complexes except Golf ground for two years, **Tender Cost (₹):** 1,82,68,092.65, **Earnest Money (₹):** 2,41,400.00, **Time of Completion:** 24 months, **Existing Closing Date of Tender:** 29.06.2022 At 15:00 pm, **Modified Date of opening of Tender:** 21.07.2022 At 15:30 pm. **S.N.: 2, Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-007-22-23, **Name of Work:** Cleaning/Sweeping of East Township and Central Township, Bunglow area, Community Hall, Baratghar East, Removal of garbage, Cleaning of all sewer line, storm water line chambers, preparation of organic compost by Vermiculture of kitchen waste of Bunglow area etc. for 2022-2024 for Two years under CHI ET & CT, **Tender Cost (₹):** 1,99,52,535.73, **Earnest Money (₹):** 2,49,800.00, **Time of Completion:** 24 months, **Existing Closing Date of Tender:** 29.06.2022 At 15:00 pm, **Modified Date of opening of Tender:** 21.07.2022 At 15:30 pm. **Note:** Special Notice- To see the detailed terms & conditions of tender and for submission of tender, please visit website: http:www.ireps.gov.in.

PRO/BLW/C-06 **Dy Chief Engineer**
/banaraslocowork "Website: https://blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ABHISHEK.D, aged 21 yrs, S/o Army No.14812304F, Rank: TS NAIK, Name: Devaraju, R/a City Police Station, Opp. Hassan road, Arsikere Taluk, Hassan District-Pin-573103 hereby state that my name has been wrongly mentioned as Abhishek in my father's army records but my correct name is Abhishek.D, vide affidavit dt: 28.06.2022 sworn before Notary S.Samuel Solomon, B'lore.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF VII ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-19)
O.S. No. 531/2017

BETWEEN: Smt. M. Geetha Lakshmi, W/o. Mr. P.G. Moni, Aged about 66 years, Residing at No. 65, 2nd Main, 3rd Block, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore - 560 079.
...Plaintiff
AND: Smt. M. SHANTHAMMA and others
...Defendants

NOTICE TO PROPOSED DEFENDANT NO. 6

Mr. MOHAMMED SADDAM HUSSAIN. K S/o SHAIK KHALEEL SAB, aged about 27 years, Residing at No. 162, 10th Cross, Vinayaka Nagara, Vidhyaranyapura Post, Bangalore-560097.

Whereas, the plaintiff have instituted a suit against them for declaration and permanent injunction. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or by pleader duly instructed by you **on 22.07.2022 at 11 am, (CCH 19)** to answer all material questions relating to the plaint failing which the matter will be heard and decided in your absence.

SUIT SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Old House List No.65, V.P.Katha No.364, (364/65), presently bearing Municipal No. 364/65, No.65, Sai Nagar, Chikkabettahalli Village Panchayat formed out of converted land bearing Survey No.20, Chikkabettahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now under the revenue jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike of Ward 3, Attur BBMP Khatha No.364/65 Site 65 Chikkabettahalli, Sai Nagar, phase II, Chikkabettahalli, Bangalore measuring East to West 65 feet and North to South 40 feet within the jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, aggregating 2600 sq.ft.

East by: Road, **West by:** Property No. 55, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Property No.64.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this day 27th of June 2022.

By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar,
City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Address of the Counsel :
UNNIKRISHNAN .M. Advocate
No.46, 1 'A' Cross, AECS Layout Road, Near ISRO, RMV II Stage, Bangalore-94.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

AFFIDAVIT
I, **KEMPANNA @ M. PUSHPA,** W/o Maniswamy, age 63 years, R/at NO. 568, 16th A Main, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **KEMPANNA** and **M. PUSHPA** are one and the same and belongs to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **M. PUSHPA** only for all future purposes, vide affidavit dated 25th June 2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary **S. JAYANNA** at Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RAYAL** Reddy Kandkur, S/O. Chinnappa Reddy Kandkur, R/O. No-17, Vivekananda Strt, Kammanahalli Mn Rd, Blr-33, have changed name to Royal Reddy Kandkur vide affdvt dtd 23/06/22

I, V RAJU, D O B 28-08-1990 S/o Venkatesh, R/o #3, 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, T.C.Palya, P & T Layout, Bengaluru-560036, have changed my name from V Raju to Muniraju.V vide affidavit dt:28-06-2022 before Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

TENDERS

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE
Ida Scudder Road, Vellore, Tamilnadu -632004

CMC invites **Expression of Interest (EOI)** from reputed and experienced Hospital Laundry Service providers with 10 years' experience and capability to handle 10-15 Tons of linen per day.

TECHNICAL CRITERIA: Prior experience in operating high end washers preferably Tunnel Washer and high-end Laundry related machines. Parties meeting the above criteria are advised to send their **Expression of Interest (EOI)** in a sealed envelope along with

1. **Company Profile and certificate of incorporation**
2. **Audited Balance Sheet for last 3 financial years.**
3. **List of major clients.**
4. **Testimonial from reputed hospital clients and / or any other relevant details.**

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY SUBMIT THEIR OFFERS
to The General Superintendent, Christian Medical College, Ida Scudder Road, Vellore, Tamilnadu -632004
in a closed envelope on or before 8th July 2022.

EDUCATIONAL

TENDERS

INSTRUMENTATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Kanjikode West, Palakkad
Kerala – PIN- 678 623
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
ILP/ITC/2022/01-01 29.06.2022

Instrumentation Limited (A Government of India Enterprises) Palakkad, Kerala Invite expression of Interest from Interested parties for **Supply, Installation of new Server and Migration of existing software and data to new Server** on turnkey basis. Interested parties may please visit our website www.ilpgt.com for tender details. EoI Should reach before 21.07.2022. AGM (IT)
0491-2567595, Email:cit@ilpgt.com

milma
Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd.
Central Products Dairy,
Punnapra P.O Alappuzha - 688 004
Ph: 0477 2255801,2255802 Mob: 9946673734
E-mail:cpd@milma.com

EOI INVITED FOR SUPPLY OF FRUIT BEVERAGES FLAVOURED MILK IN PACKS

Expression of interest is invited from reputed food products manufacturing companies having valid FSSAI license for custom packing of processed and packed fruit beverages in Tetra packs/ Aluminum cans and Flavoured milk in PP bottles/Cans in our brand name. Details are available in our website www.milma.com. Interested parties may submit their offers either through E-mail/post with rates on or before 2.00 pm on 11.07.2022
Sd/-
MANAGER

THE HINDU
Text & Context

FROM THE ARCHIVES

GST reform needs a new grand bargain

The GST compensation issue strengthens the necessity for a new system between sovereign and sub-sovereign entities

AJIT RANADE
VIJAY KELKAR

The GST council is meeting in Chandigarh even as the tax regime completes five years in operation as of June 30. This article by Vijay Kelkar and Ajit Ranade on September 1, 2020, talks about how the Centre and the States need to completely re-formulate the GST regime.

Three years ago, the Centre and the States of the Union of India struck a grand bargain resulting in the launch of the unified Goods and Services Tax (GST) era . The States gave up their right to collect sales tax and sundry taxes, and the Centre gave up excise and services tax. The nationwide GST promised frictionless commerce across State borders, buoyant and leakproof tax compliance, and removal of inefficiencies like the cascade of "tax on tax". This historic grand bargain was the result of painstaking consensus building, which inter alia involved addressing the apprehension of States, of revenue loss due to the GST.

THE GIST

- The Centre and the States of India struck a grand bargain resulting in the launch of the GST era . The States gave up their right to collect sales tax and sundry taxes, and the Centre gave up excise and services tax. The consent of the States was secured by a promise of reimbursing any shortfall in tax revenues for a period of five years. However, as the economy battles a pandemic and recession, it seems that the States have been told that they are on their own to meet shortfall in revenues.
- This is wrong on many counts. First, the States do not have recourse to multiple options that the Centre has. Second, the Centre can anyway command much lower rates of borrowing from the markets. Third, in terms of aggregate public sector borrowing, it does not matter for the debt markets whether it is the States or the Centre that is increasing their indebtedness. Fourth, fighting this recession through increased fiscal stimulus is the Centre's domain. Fifth this causes a serious dent in the trust built up between the Centre and States
- The issue of GST compensation to the States is just the latest in the bumpy journey of the new tax design. It is clear that the design needs a radical overhaul.

Abdication of responsibility

Their consent was secured by a promise of reimbursing any shortfall in tax revenues for a period of five years. This reimbursement was to be funded by a special cess called the GST compensation cess. The promised reimbursement was to fill the gap for an assured 14% year on year tax growth for five years, and it was generous to a fault. Neither the national aggregate nor any of the major States had this record for the previous five years.

But that was not the only fault with the design, which had also failed to learn from the successful design of harmonising Value Added Tax (VAT) rates across the nation, implemented just a decade ago. VAT was the precursor to GST and also needed a consensus. That design too had an inbuilt reimbursement formula. But that tapered over the years, making room for incentives for tax effort from the States, sort of "skin in the game".

As the economy battles a pandemic and recession, the tax collection has dropped significantly, while expenditure needs are sharply higher, especially at the frontline of the battle, at the State level. But it seems that the States have been told that they are on their own to meet the shortfall in revenues. Using an equivalent of the Force Majeure clause in commercial contracts, the Centre is abdicating its responsibility of making up for the shortfall in 14% growth in GST revenues to the states.

The onus is on the Centre

This is wrong on many counts. First, the States do not have recourse to multiple options that the Centre has, such as issue of a sovereign bond (in dollars or rupees) or a loan against public sector unit shares from the Reserve Bank of India. Second, the Centre can anyway command much lower rates of borrowing from the markets as compared to the States. Third, in terms of aggregate public sector borrowing, it does not matter for the debt markets, nor the rating agencies, whether it is the States or the Centre that is increasing their indebtedness. Fourth, fighting this recession through increased fiscal stimulus is basically the job of macroeconomic stabilisation, which is the Centre's domain. Fifth, and most importantly, breaking this important promise, using the alibi of the COVID-19 pandemic causes a serious dent in the trust built up between the Centre and States.

Cooperative federalism is in the nature of a "repeated game" between the two entities, and every action must think of the future consequences, not just the immediate ones. Will it not weaken the foundation of trust?

Kautilya too would have advised the sovereign against reneging on the promised bailout, as fulfilling the obligation helps build trust with sub-sovereigns.

The Australian example

The issue of GST compensation to the States is just the latest in the bumpy three-year journey of the new tax design. It is clear that the design needs a radical overhaul. Just tinkering with the compensation mechanism, or frequently changing rate slabs, or pushing more goods in the "sin tax" cess category, to earn revenue that is not shareable with the States, is not the way forward. What we instead need is a Grand Bargain 2.0 between the sovereign and the sub-sovereign entities. What would this be based upon? We have to go back to first principles. GST is a destination-based consumption tax, which must include all goods and services with very few exceptions, such as food and medicine. That widening of the tax base itself will allow us to go back to the original recommendation of a standard rate of 12%, to be fixed for at least a five-year period. A comparison with Australia which also coincidentally shares its GST anniversary with India, is apt. For the past two decades their GST rate has been constant at 10%. Of course India's single rate of 12% has to cover petrol, diesel, electricity, transport and real estate as well. Some extra elbow room for the States' revenue autonomy is obtained by allowing the States non VATable surcharges on a small list of "sin" goods such as liquor, tobacco, polluting goods such as sport utility vehicles, and industrial fuels such as diesel, aviation turbine fuel and coal. A low moderate single rate of 12% encourages better compliance, reduces the need to do arbitrary classification and discretion, reduces litigation and will lead to buoyancy in collection.

Incidentally this redesign will scrupulously avoid the bogey of a "revenue neutral rate" (RNR) which needlessly occupied the attention of lawmakers and officials. GST is a long-term structural reform, while RNR is a short term and basically an elusive concept. In the long term there are many changes in consumption patterns, production configurations and locations, which cannot be anticipated and hence a static concept of RNR cannot be reference. The commitment to a low and stable rate, à la Australia and many other federal democracies, is a must. Of course the compensation-cum-reimbursement incentive can remain, but more in the nature of what was done for VAT harmonisation.

Third tier of government

This new grand bargain must recognise the increasing importance of the third tier of government. Even after 28 years of the 73rd and 74th Amendments, the local governments do not have the promised transfer of funds, functions and functionaries. These local bodies face increased responsibility of providing government services especially in view of increased urbanisation and decentralisation. Of the 12% GST, 10% should be equally shared between the States and the Centre, and 2% must be earmarked exclusively for the urban and rural local bodies, which ensures some basic revenue autonomy to them. The actual distribution across panchayats, districts and cities would be given by respective State Finance Commissions. GST consumption tax paid by every citizen establishes a tighter link between the governed and the government. The quality of governance improves as also, the tax base is better aligned with responsibilities of various tiers of government.

Other changes

This fresh approach also calls for an overhaul of the interstate GST and the administration of the e-way bill. Research papers by Bhaskar and Kelkar (Reforming Integrated GST: Towards accelerating exports Policy Brief by Dr. V. Bhaskar and Dr. Vijay Kelkar and National Agenda for 2019 - A proposal for the GST reform by Dr. V. Bhaskar and Dr. Vijay Kelkar) describe the simplified mechanism, which essentially reduces the transaction costs drastically. The current system is too complex and burdensome. We also need to zero rate exports. GST is a crucial and long-term structural reform which can address the fiscal needs of the future, strike the right and desired balance to achieve co-operative federalism and also lead to enhanced economic growth. The current design and implementation has failed to deliver on that promise. A new grand bargain is needed.

Vijay Kelkar and Ajit Ranade are, respectively, Vice-President and Member, Pune International Centre

AP

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Witness to violence

Mob participation, and the role of the government in quelling riots

SUDIPTA DATTA

In telling the story of the 1994 Rwandan massacres (*When Victims Become Killers*), Mahmood Mamdani stresses on the point that one of the most troubling aspects of the killings of millions of Tutsis by Hutus was the "popularity" of the genocide. He recalls a survivor telling him, "In Rwanda the government did not kill. It prepared the population, enraged it and enticed it. Your neighbours killed you."

Writing on hate

Perhaps no incident of communal violence in India has led to more controversy than the Gujarat riots of 2002 following the arson of a train in Godhra carrying Hindutva activists. In 2012, the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team (SIT) gave a clean chit to then Chief Minister Narendra Modi; in 2017, the Gujarat High Court too upheld the SIT order; and last Friday, the Supreme Court dismissed the "larger conspiracy" angle, saying inaction or failure of "some officials" cannot be the basis to infer a pre-planned criminal conspiracy by the State government. Zakia Jafri, widow of the Congress leader Ehsan Jafri killed in the Gulberg Society riots in Ahmedabad, moved the Supreme Court raising allegations of a "larger conspiracy".

There have been several books on the riots and its aftermath. Journalist and writer Revati Laul spent a decade in Gujarat conducting research to find out about the perpetrators of the 2002 violence. In her 2018 book *The Anatomy of Hate*, she tells the story through three people, Pranav, an upper caste English-speaking 'outlier in the mob in 2002', Dungar, a tribal who was part of the BJP and the VHP, and Suresh Langdo, who is serving a 31-year jail sentence for raping and killing Muslim women and men in 2002. In an interview to *The Hindu*, Laul had said: "Each of these people had very different backgrounds, different ways of entering the space of violence and decidedly different trajectories after. For me, writing about them was a way of telling the story from the inside out and also to leave people with the idea that violence is varied, diverse and ever-changing. And complex. Everything and its opposite is true at the same time."

If Laul and Ashish Khetan (*Under Cover: My Journey into the Darkness of Hindutva*) focused on the perpetrators, trying to understand what spurs a person to hate, in *The Fiction of Fact-Finding* (2014), Manoj Mitta draws parallels between Gujarat 2002 and the 1984 massacre of Sikhs in Delhi to argue that in both incidents there was a "subversion of the criminal justice system", under legal cover. Mitta writes in detail about the "mistakes committed in the course of fact-finding on the Gujarat carnage. Serious as they were, a lot of these mistakes covered up political and administrative complicity in the post-Godhra violence. The distortions in the findings were thanks to the insidious manner in which issues had been framed, facts selected, evidence recorded or inferences drawn."

The myth of facts

It had taken Mitta and H.S. Phoolka 23 years to release a book on the 1984 massacre (*When a Tree Shook Delhi*) "because there was an even greater delay in that case in the release of official fact-finding material." Mitta argues that communal politics enjoy "social sanction" and that the "sanction extends to the process of fact-finding, allowing it to be reduced, as in most cases, to an insidious variant of the dictum that history is written by victors." He writes that barring exceptions such as the Jaganmohan Reddy Commission's report on the Gujarat riots of 1969 and the B.N. Srikrishna Commission's report on the Bombay riots of 1992-93, "the fact-finding on communal violence in India has largely been fictitious."

R.B. Sreekumar, former DGP Gujarat, who turned whistle-blower, wrote about his experience in Gujarat and the subversion of the "rule of law" in his book, *Gujarat Behind the Curtain*. He was arrested a day after the Supreme Court verdict on June 24 for forgery, criminal conspiracy and other offences under the Indian Penal Code.

THE DAILY QUIZ

On June 29, 1613, the Globe Theatre was destroyed by fire during a performance of Henry VIII. Here is a general quiz on theatre from across the world

1 The three most acclaimed Greek playwrights, who often explored themes of tragedy, have contributed immensely to the field of world literature through works like *Antigone*, *The Oresteia trilogy*, and *The Trojan Women*, among others. Name the playwrights.

2 This play, a two-act tragedy, is set in 1940s New York and tells the story of a travelling salesman who is disappointed with his life. It won the 1949 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. What is the name of the play, and who wrote it?

3 *Hayavadana* is a play by Indian playwright Girish Karnad. In which language was it originally written? It is based on two different books. Name them.

4 *Doctor Faustus* is an Elizabethan tragedy by Christopher Marlowe. One of the characters in the play is one of the various figures in Roman folklore associated with the planet Venus. Subsequently, the name of the entity was absorbed into Christianity as a name for the devil. Which is the character being referred to here?

5 These three Indian films have been adapted from William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, *Othello*, and *Hamlet*. The director, who has directed all three films also has films like *The Blue Umbrella* and *Makdee* to his credit. Which are the three films?

6 This is known as the National Theatre of Ireland. It served as a nursery for many Irish playwrights, including William Butler Yeats, Lady Gregory and Seán O'Casey. Which is the theatre?

7 *West Side Story* is a play by Jerome Robbins. Inspired by William Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*, the story is set in the mid-1950s on the Upper West Side of Manhattan in New York City. In 2021, it was adapted into a film of the same name, directed by Steven Spielberg. What type of play is *West Side Story*?

◄ This playwright was murdered while performing a street play in 1989. He was best known for his work with street theatre in India. Identify him and mention the play that was being performed when he was killed.

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The person who assassinated the Archduke and his wife. **Ans: Gavrilo Princep in Sarajevo**
2. The belligerent powers of WWI. **Ans: The Allied and Central Powers**
3. The weaponry first used by the British at the Battle of the Somme in September 1916. **Ans: Tanks**
4. The real name of Margaretha Geertruida MacLeod, a Dutch dancer shot by the French on charges of spying for Germany. **Ans: Mata Hari**
5. The reason why the U.S. joined WWI. **Ans: Germany's action of unrestricted submarine warfare in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean**
6. The organisation that was created after WWI as a forum to resolve international disputes. **Ans: League of Nations**
7. The flower which has come to symbolise WWI. **Ans: The Poppy**
8. The location where the treaty that ended the state of war between Germany and the Allied Powers was signed. **Ans: Palace of Versailles**
Visual: The location of this main memorial to the Indian Army that fought on the Western Front. **Ans: Neuve Chapelle in France**

Early Birds: Upaakti Dahraan| Anand. K. Vijayan| Shubhajit Roy| Ashraf Basha

Compiled by: Sindhu Nagaraj

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (June 29, Wednesday), the following explainers are available:

- An explainer on China's interventions in the Horn of Africa bit.ly/3uwlzNZ
- Understanding the G7 plan to counter China's Belt and Road initiative bit.ly/3y7dU9Q
- **Bibliography |** Books which look at how communal violence manifests and operates bit.ly/witnessriot

Online exclusives

Video

- Who is Droupadi Murmu? bit.ly/3HWfy2s

Data

- Poor revenues, higher spending increased debt burden of 10 Indian States bit.ly/3y77rM6
- Defect, contest, win, repeat: BJP fielded most turncoat candidates in last decade bit.ly/datatruncoat
- *You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.*

Patrol police saves youth in nick of time

He had attempted to end his life

Police officers Ramesh B. and Chandrashekharaiah rescued the 26-year-old student who was staying in a PG in J.P. Nagar.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

In a swift action, assistant sub-inspector Ramesh B. and head constable Chandrashekharaiah rescued a 26-year-old student who attempted to end his life at a paying guest accommodation in J.P. Nagar on Monday.

The student, a native of Pune, was pursuing food technology at Jain University and was staying at the PG in Sarakki junction.

On Monday evening, the boy's friend Akhilesh received a message from him on his phone informing that he was going to end his life. Shocked, Akhilesh called 112 for help and the control room staff aired the message to Hoysala no. 244 asking them to take immediate action. Mr. Ramesh and Mr. Chandrashekharaiah located the address and rushed to the room to find the boy lying in a pool of blood. Without wasting time, the police wrapped a cloth around the boy's wrist and carried him to the ambulance that reached the spot in five minutes. He was rushed to Rajarajeshwari Medical College, R.R. Nagar, where he is recovering.

It was emotional moment for Mr. Ramesh and Mr. Chandrashekharaiah as the boy's friends and relatives reached the hospital and thanked the duo for saving his life.

Further probe revealed that the boy was depressed and was not attending the college for the last few days.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph: 104 for help.)

Peddler from T.N. arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Kalasipalya police on Tuesday arrested a 32-year-old hotel staff and recovered 20.5 kg of marijuana. Selvaraj, from Kanchipuram, was caught while he was waiting for his clients near the bus stand.

The police recovered few packets from him and raided the room of a lodge where he had kept the rest of the drugs neatly packed in a plastic cover.

IN BRIEF

Four burglars arrested

BENGALURU

The Peenya police on Tuesday arrested four burglars and recovered stolen articles worth ₹35.4 lakh. Fayaz Ahmed, 50, owner of a junk shop in Mysuru, is a habitual offender. He ganged up with Prasad, 37, Mahesh, 21, and Sumanth, 23, while in prison and after being released on bail, they started to break into houses, Vinaya Patil, DCP, North Division, said.

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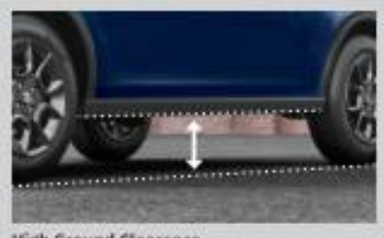

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Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 29	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:50
RISE 05:53	SET 19:12
THURSDAY, JUN. 30	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:50
RISE 06:44	SET 20:01
FRIDAY, JUL. 01	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:50
RISE 07:36	SET 20:47

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	23
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C A comfortable but humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Chances of rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm but humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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IN BRIEF

COVID: State sees 968 new cases, one death

BENGALURU

Karnataka on Tuesday saw 968 new infections taking the total number of cases to 39,66,420. Of the new cases, 887 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban alone. With one death, the State's toll touched 40,073.

COVID-19 hospitalisations rise, but nothing to worry yet: Experts

General bed admissions not a true indicator of severity of illness: TAC chairman

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

Hospitalisation owing to COVID-19 is inching up in Karnataka, though fatalities are low. As of Monday (June 27), there were 79 patients admitted in hospitals. This is a nearly 20% jump from the four hospitalisations that were recorded on June 1.

According to data from the State Health Department, of the 79 patients hospitalised, 12 are in ICUs and two have occupied oxygen/ high dependency unit (HDU) beds. The remaining have occupied general beds. While 72 of the 79 are in BBMP areas, all the 79 have been admitted in government hospitals.

Hospitalisations that had remained low despite a rise in new cases since the beginning of this month, started increasing from June 10 when 22 patients required admission. In ten days, this number doubled to 42 on June 20. Now, in a span of one week, hospitalisations have shot up to 79.

This follows the Indian SARS-CoV -2 Genomics Consortium's (INSACOG) confirmation about the presence of BA.4 and BA.6 sub-lineages of Omicron in Bengaluru last week. This was nearly a month after sewage surveillance in the city had detected the possible presence of these sub-lineages.

Health officials said most of the hospitalised are those with co-morbidities. • FILE PHOTO

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said most of the hospitalised are those with comorbidities. "Except for those with comorbidities, the other admissions are precautionary in nature. None of those admitted have required ventilator support so far," he said.

M.K. Sudarshan, chairman of the State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), said the number of hospitalisations vis-a-vis the number of new cases are not of concern as of now.

"Most of the people who are hospitalised are in general wards and these are not a true indicator of the severity of illness. The real measure of severity of disease is reflected in ICU and HDU bed occupancy, which is still low. As Omicron (and its sub-lineages) continues to be the dominant variant, the transmissibility is high but virulence is low," he said.

"Presently because of the easy availability of beds, some people, especially those with comorbidities and others at high risk including senior citizens, prefer to get admitted to get all the investigations done and for better care," the TAC chairman said.

C.N. Manjunath, member of the State's Clinical Experts Committee, said that many who visit hospitals for treatment of other ailments are testing positive when tested before surgeries. "At Jayadeva institute, we are detecting two-three patients positive for COVID when tested before surgery," he said.

BA.5 sub-lineage

TAC member Giridhar R. Babu, who also heads Life-course Epidemiology at Indian Institute of Public Health in Bengaluru, said that BA.5 is resulting in an increased number of infections and hospitalisations in several countries.

In a series of tweets, he said: "Even with a booster dose, UK Health Security Agency data shows lowered vaccine effectiveness against severe disease for BA.5. For those aged above 50, protection against mortality is greater only with a booster dose. People should come forward to get booster shots."

COVID-19: REVISED GUIDELINES

The State Health Department has issued revised testing, isolation, treatment and quarantine guidelines for clusters in apartments, offices, and educational institutions in BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district.

- No need to seal down the floors, towers, blocks in apartment complexes and educational institutions where clusters are reported.
- Only asymptomatic domestic helpers aged below 60 who are fully vaccinated (along with precaution dose) should be allowed to work wearing N-95 masks.
- No need to take up mass testing of asymptomatic residents in apartment complex or educational institution where clusters are reported.
- In case of small clusters (<5 cases) all symptomatic persons in the flats on the floor; large cluster (≥ 5 cases) all symptomatic persons in the flats of the block/tower; outbreak (-≥ 15cases) all symptomatic persons in the apartment complex as determined by the local health authority should be tested by Rapid Antigen Tests. (RAT)
- Those testing positive should be isolated and managed as per the State's guidelines such as home isolation or COVID Care Centre isolation or hospitalisation.
- Additional samples for RT-PCR should be taken from those who test RAT positive in clusters and samples with Cycle Threshold (CT) value less than 25 should be sent for genome sequencing.
- High-risk asymptomatic persons such as senior citizens and those with comorbidities should be tested only by RT-PCR and not RAT.
- RWAs should strictly enforce COVID appropriate behaviour such as compulsory face mask in common areas
- Facilities in common areas such as club house, swimming pool, reading rooms, sports room, association office, etc. should be closed till the recovery of last case and subsequently sanitised for reuse.
- Those with COVID-19 symptoms should not attend office, educational institution.
- Those who test positive through RAT should be isolated and managed as per protocols.
- If RAT is negative, RT-PCR testing should be done and such persons should isolate themselves and await results of the test and then follow protocols accordingly.
- If positive, close contacts and primary contacts who are symptomatic should be tested by RAT and if positive, should be isolated and managed.

Tremors hit Sullia twice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

Tremors were felt twice in parts of Sullia taluk of Dakshina Kannada on Tuesday. While an earthquake of 3.0 magnitude on the Richter Scale was noticed in the morning, another one of 1.8 magnitude struck in the evening.

According to Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, the earthquake of 3.0 magnitude was felt at 7.45 a.m. and epicentered 5.2 km north of M. Chembu village of Paraje Gram Panchayat of Madikeri taluk in Kodagu district. The epicentre was 12.1 km south east of Sullia taluk.

The second earthquake of 1.8 magnitude was felt at 4.32 p.m. and it was epicentered 5.8 km north west of M. Chembu. The centre said that the intensity observed is low and does not create any harm to the community.

The tremors were felt by people in Sullia, Sampaje, Gonadka, Guttigar and surrounding areas of Sullia taluk. Cracks were noticed on the walls of the house of the former Sampaje Gram Panchayat member P.R. Nagesh in Kallugundi of Sullia taluk.

In Kodagu

An earthquake measuring 1.8 on the Richter scale was recorded in parts of Kodagu.

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5	Research Analyst	MMGS-III	02	
6	Research Analyst-Equity	MMGS-III	01	
7	Research Analyst Private Equity	MMGS-III	01	
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दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

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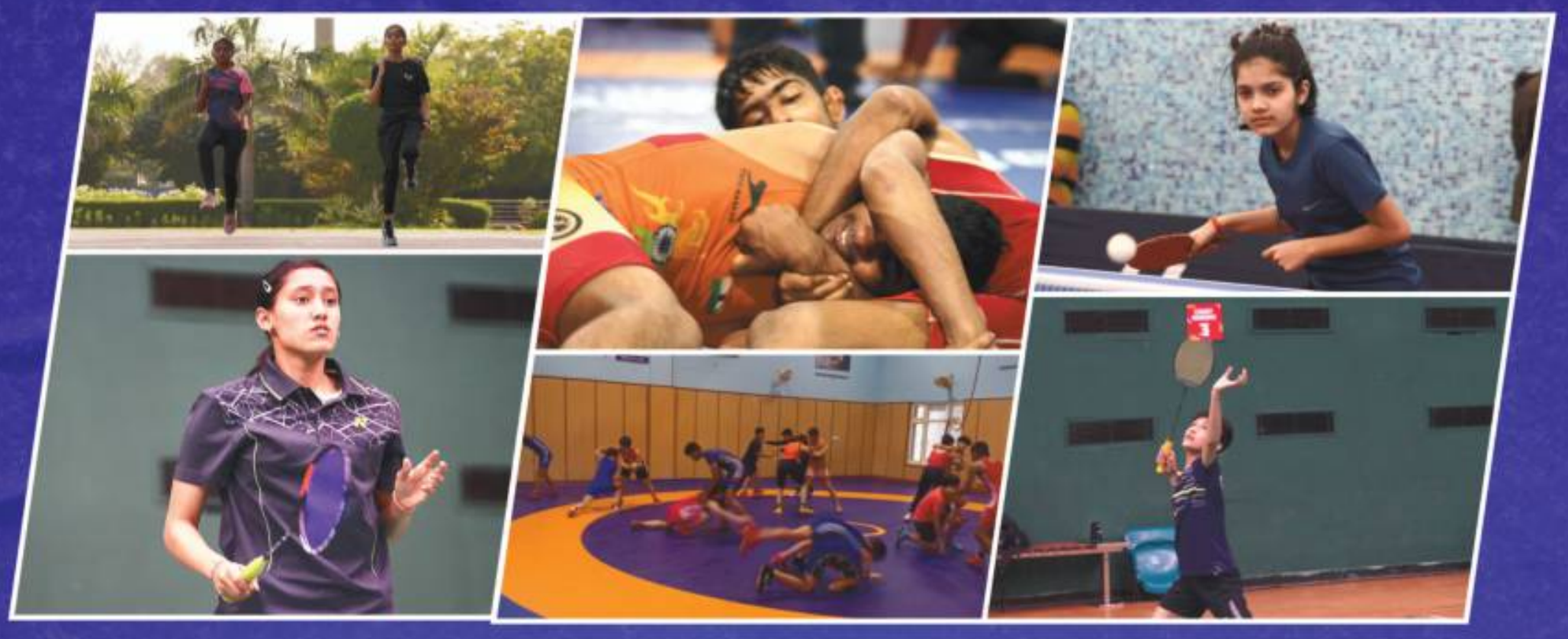

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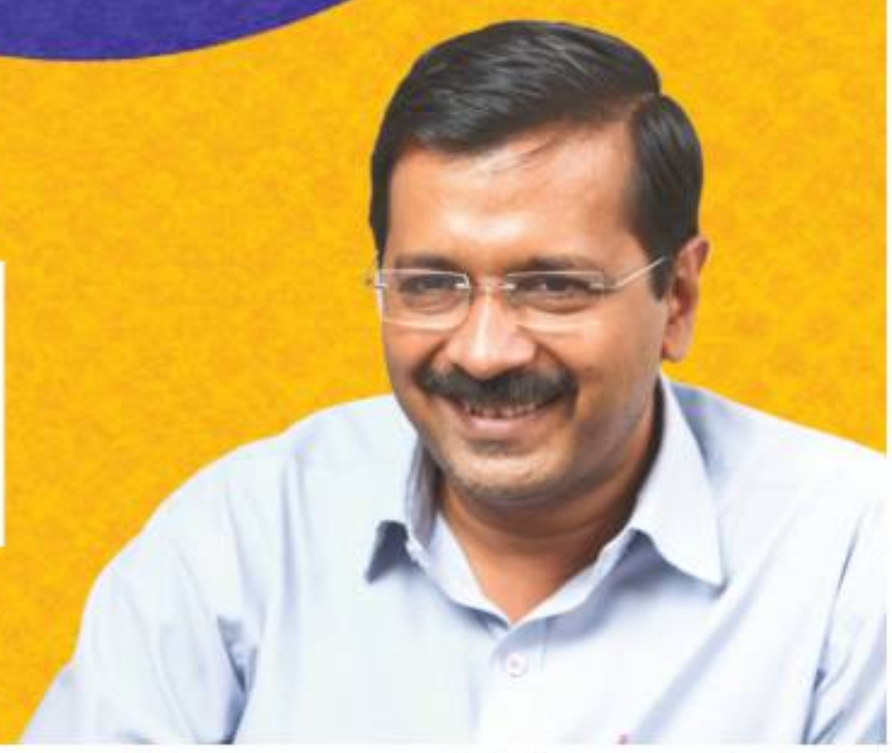

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Directorate of Higher Education (Delhi Sports University), Government of NCT of Delhi

Loyalists plan mega birthday bash for Siddaramaiah in Aug.

He may use the platform to send message to high command about his popularity

NAGESH PRABHU
BENGALURU

Loyalists of former Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Siddaramaiah are planning a big bash on his 75th birthday in August, which gains significance in the light of next year's State Legislative Assembly elections.

They are making arrangements for a function in Davangere on August 3, though Mr. Siddaramaiah's birthday is on August 12. It is planned as a show of strength with leaders of all communities invited. Committees have been formed to make arrangements and invite about five lakh party workers and supporters, said sources in the Congress. The event would also be used to mobilise voters belonging to the minority, backward classes and Dalits (AHINDA) communities.

Senior Congress leaders K.C. Venugopal, Siddaramaiah, Rahul Gandhi, D.K. Shivakumar, and Randeep Singh Surjewala during a meeting on preparations for Karnataka Assembly elections, in New Delhi on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

10 years ago

A decade ago, in 2012, Congress leaders sensing victory in the 2013 Assembly polls, had celebrated Mr. Siddaramaiah's 65th birthday in a big way.

In a context where a few leaders have already quit Congress and many have expressed displeasure on the functioning of the party led by D.K. Shivakumar, Mr. Siddaramaiah is expected to use the birthday platform to send message to the party high command about his popularity and necessity of projecting him as the party's Chief Ministerial candidate ahead of the 2023 polls, sources said. At present, the party is talking of going to polls under a collective leadership.

The event would also drop enough signals to Mr. Shivakumar that side-lining leaders or denying party ticket to those loyal to Mr. Siddaramaiah would cost the party dear.

Party sources said Mr. Siddaramaiah is not keen on contesting next year's elections if he is not declared as the Chief Ministerial candidate. "Just for the sake of becoming MLA, he will not contest polls," a source close to the former Chief Minister said.

A party functionary indicated that Mr. Siddaramaiah would not contest elections from Badami constituency in Bagalkot district. If the party declared Mr. Siddaramaiah as the CM candidate, he would either contest from Varuna constituency, presently represented by his son Yathindra, or Chamarajpet constituency in Bengaluru, presently represented by B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan.

Mr. Khan is one the trusted lieutenants of Mr. Siddaramaiah, who has been staying away from the party functions allegedly owing to differences with Mr. Shivakumar. MLA Akhanda Srinivas Murthy, representing Pulakeshinagar reserved constituency, in Bengaluru, too had expressed his dissent on the leadership of Mr. Shivakumar. Former Minister M.R. Seetharam, who was miffed over being denied MLC ticket, held a convention of his supporters last week and criticised the KPCC leadership.

A section of leaders have reportedly also expressed displeasure over the functioning of both Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar. Former Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara, who headed the KPCC for more than eight years, seems to be sulking and is seen not actively participating in the party's affairs. As many have questioned the party leadership on selection of candidates for the recently held elections to MLC and Rajya Sabha, the birthday bash will surely be a test of the popularity of Mr. Siddaramaiah.

HC directs State police chief to provide body cameras to record process of arrest

Tells govt. to pay ₹2 lakh compensation for unlawfully handcuffing a person

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Noticing that a person was unlawfully handcuffed after arresting him based on warrant issued in a cheque dishonour case, the High Court of Karnataka has directed the State police chief endeavour to make available body cameras to all police officers, who are authorised to arrest a person, so that the manner of arrest is recorded.

The High Court also said that cameras should also be equipped with microphone to record the conversations that take place at that particular point of time, and both the audio and the video recording of the process of arrest has to be retained at least for a period of one year from the date of recording.

A Standard Operating Procedure should also be prepared by the State police chief in this regard and suitable training to be provided to such officers on using body cameras, the High Court said.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued the direction while allowing a petition filed by 30-year-old Suprit Ishwat Divate of Chikkodi in Belagavi district seeking compensation for unlawfully handcuffing him in public place. The petitioner had produced video recorded by one his friends using a mobile phone to prove that he was handcuffed. He was handcuffed by the jurisdictional police while arresting him based on a non-bailable warrant issued by a trial court in Chikkodi taluk in 2019 for not appearing in a cheque dishonour case lodged against him under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

Pay compensation

The High Court directed the State government to pay a compensation of ₹2 lakh to the petitioner while observing that there was no justifiable reason for handcuffing him as provided either in the law or in the guidelines issued by the apex court.

While declining to accept the contention of the government that the petitioner was handcuffed as there were not enough police personnel, in view of vacancies, to safeguard and prevent the escape, the High Court said the Government and the State police chief have to take steps to fill vacant posts in a time-bound manner.

Reiterating the apex court's guidelines on handcuffing, the High Court made it clear that no person, whether being an accused, under trial prisoner or convict, shall be handcuffed unless the reason for the same is recorded in the case diary or the relevant record as to why such a person is required to be handcuffed.

The High Court has also reminded the trial courts of their duty to enquiry with accused persons, on their production by the police, whether they were handcuffed or not, and seek explanation from the police and verify legality of such action.

Villagers worry as houses develop cracks due to blasts at Yettinahole canal site

They have been staging protests for nearly a month seeking compensation

SATHISH G.T.
G.G. KOPLU (HASSAN DISTRICT)

For nearly a month, residents of Gore Gowdana Koplu in Palya hobli of Alur taluk in Hassan district have been staging a protest over the alleged damage caused to their houses due to the blasts conducted as part of the canal work for the Yettinahole project.

Many of the 45 houses in the village have been hit by the series of blats conducted to break the rocks that come in the way of the canal. Several walls have developed cracks in the last couple of months, prompting the residents to demand a suitable compensation. Residents of Hebbanahalli in Sakleshpur taluk had made similar claims in March this year, saying blasts were resulting in cracks in their houses.

The Yettinahole Integrated Drinking Water Supply Project aims to carry water from the west-flowing streams to the dry areas of Chickballapur, Kolar, and other districts. The canals are being constructed in parts of Sakleshpur, Alur, Belur, and Arsikere taluks to carry water. "We did not oppose the project work until the blasts began. Whenever

A damaged house at G.G. Koplu in Alur taluk. • PRAKASH HASSAN

blasts occurred, the ground beneath our feet shakes. After a series of blasts, walls develop cracks," said Yogeesh, a resident of the village.

Long-drawn protest

The residents have put up a tent next to the canal site to stage a dharna. They staged a dharna outside the Deputy Commissioner's office in Hassan on Thursday as well. They met taluk-level and district-level officers seeking justice. Following their protests, blasts were stopped at the site. "We ensured the blasts are stopped as we were worried about our safety. The school walls have also developed cracks. Anganwadi children used to return home in fear when the blasts were conducted," said Kantaraj, another resident.

The district administration has given compensation of ₹13 lakh each to the owners of four houses that were damaged due to the project work. "The amount paid is insufficient. They cannot afford to build a new house with that money, given the current price of construction materials. Also, now almost all houses have been hit by the work. The government has to provide compensation for all," demanded Shailaja.

The protesters claimed that the village is located on a huge rock. As a portion of the rock is being broken using explosives, the entire village was suffering the impact. "We have urged the administration to bring in experts and study how the damage is being caused. Due to our protests, officers from the Revenue Department and Yettinahole project officials have taken video footage of the walls that have developed cracks. Let them study the impact scientifically and announce a proper compensation," said Kallesh.

Residents upset

The villagers said during one of their meetings with Yettinahole project officers, an officer reportedly said the government would give compensation only if anybody died due to the damage caused by the blasts, which has enraged the residents. "Do they want us to die to claim compensation? Whom would they hand over the compensation money if we die?" asked Sujatha, a resident.

Hassan Deputy Commissioner R. Girish, during the residents' protest in Hassan, said compensation had been paid to four houses in the village. If more houses were damaged, the officers would visit the village and assess the situation.

Applications invited for law course

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Applications are invited for admission to I semester of five years B.A. LLB, (Honors) degree course in University Law College, Jnanabharathi campus, for the academic year 2022-23.

According to a press release from Bangalore University, candidates who have passed 10+2 or equivalent examinations with not less than 45% of the total marks are eligible to apply.

Details

Further, the release said the application should be filled online by visiting the university website www.bangaloreuniversity.co.in on or before July 15, 2022. For details, visit www.ulc.bangalore.com.

Bommai attends GST meeting; council accepts interim report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who is heading the Group of Ministers on GST, on Tuesday attended a 47th Goods and Service Tax (GST) council meeting chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Chandigarh.

Representatives of States and UTs attended the meeting on Tuesday.

The GoM on rate rationalisation submitted its interim report at the GST council meeting. The interim report is on two mandates of correcting inversion and pruning exemption list and was presented before GST council by Mr. Bommai. The members of council expressed their appreciation for the detailed analysis done by GoM in the report.

Basavaraj Bommai

Delhi government Minister Manish Sisodia said that council should adopt the entire interim report as it is without any discussion.

Members of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh governments informed that a balanced view has been taken by the GoM under leadership of Mr. Bommai in bringing out a report with due sensitivity to consumers.

The entire GoM report was accepted unanimously by the council without discussion on individual points.

The council may also defer rate restructuring, including changes in the current GST slabs, for three months as requested by the GoM due to inflation concerns.

Issues that came up for discussion included compensation to States and measures to prevent tax evasion as Union and State governments remain under pressure to mobilise revenue to manage increasing expenditure. A few States made their presentations on issues concerned to them on the first day of the meeting.

The Opposition-ruled States and the Congress have been seeking continuation of compensation to States for revenue loss beyond the five-year period, which ends in June 2022.

Power bills to see an increase for six months

Escoms to collect Fuel Adjustment Cost

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Power bills will see a rise for the next six months – July to December – as the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) recently approved the request of various ESCOMS to recover Fuel Adjustment Costs (FAC). The recovery will be made on a per unit basis for the last two quarters of 2021-22 and will be reflected in the bills of the customers of the five Escoms in the coming quarter.

The energy bills of Bescom will see an increase of 31 paise per unit, while Hescom customers will have to pay an extra 27 paise per unit. An additional 26 paise per unit will be added to Gescom bills and 19 to CESC customers. Along with these, the temporary increase of Mescom bills will fall onto the consumers of Mangaluru SEZ and the FAC of Hescom will also be applicable to Hukeri RECS and AEQUS SEZ.

The KERC, in an order has said, "There is an increase in the variable cost of thermal stations, ranging between 37 paise per unit to 49 paise per unit in respect of all the Escoms. The overall actual per unit power purchase cost incurred by the Escoms is also increased/decreased than the approved per unit power purchase cost, ranging between (-) 14 paise per unit to 29 paise per unit.."

Annual tariff hike

These additional charges come on top of the annual tariff hike which was announced earlier this year in April. However, Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar on Tuesday issued a clarification that the FAC should not be linked with annual tariff revision.

"There are 13 thermal power stations in the State and coal and petroleum products are needed for their functioning. Based on the market price fluctuations of these products, quarterly cost adjustment is a routine process in all electricity supply companies. The KERC has revised this FAC based on the proposals of Escoms. This revision is done at the discretion of KERC and it can either increase or decrease", he explained.

Earlier in the day, JD(S) leader and former Chief Minister had taken to Twitter to condemn the electricity charge hike.

'One Health' pilot project launched

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The "One Health" pilot project aimed at improving national and State-level resource allocation and policy ecosystem on early prediction, detection, and diagnosis of zoonotic diseases through increased quality, availability, and utility of data evidence, was launched in Bengaluru on Tuesday. The project has been initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD).

Multi-sectoral approach

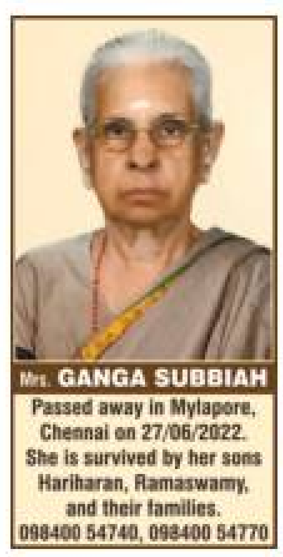
One Health is a multi-sectoral approach that takes into consideration human, animal and environmental health and the interconnectivity and interdependence of these three elements. The idea becomes especially important after the COVID pandemic for taking a holistic approach.

Speaking at the launch, Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, said, "The One Health India programme will work to improve livestock health, human health, wildlife health, and environmental health by institutionalising the coordination among animal, human and wildlife departments, improving disease diagnosis and surveillance, digitising the data collection and sharing mechanism and enabling enhanced communication among community members on the need to pay attention to zoonotic diseases and for implementing One Health."

"This pilot project will help institutionalise coordination among various sectors thereby making data sharing and reporting procedures on disease outbreaks feasible. It will facilitate, strengthen, and integrate the laboratories in a network," he said. The pilot in Karnataka will form the basis for development of the One Health Framework for India.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH



Mrs. GANGA SUBBIAH
Passed away in Mylapore, Chennai on 27/06/2022.
She is survived by her sons Hariharan, Ramaswamy, and their families.
098400 54740, 098400 54770

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY

20.09.1938

29.06.2014

Mrs. Rajeswari Margam
W/o.Late C.N.Margam
Retd. Chief Engineer PWD
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"Eight years have passed since you left us to the eternal world, but not a second passes without your presence felt and guidance"
Your ever - loving children and Grandchildren
Home No.044-23762743 HP:9840047816

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

D.O.B. 08.02.1935 D.O.D. 29.06.2019
Padma Shri Dr.Jaya Arunachalam
"You still live in our hearts, thoughts & deeds"
Remembered Forever by
Family - Yashovardhan - Nandini Azad, Ramesh Arunachalam - Janaki, Mithila - Dhananjaya Dendukuri
Indira Arjun Dev
Working Women's Forum (India)
Indian Cooperative Network for Women Ltd.,
Vidya Bharathi Kalyana Mandapam
Independent Commission for People's Rights and Development
Rabo Home & Kamaraj Illam
55, Bhimasena Garden Road, Mylapore, Chennai - 4
Ph: 044-24993937, 24992853, 24991248, 24993797

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ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: dudc_blr@yahoo.co.in, dudc.blrural@gmail.com
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.06.2022
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ)
(Indent No: DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT132818)
Schedule of Bidding Process
Events: 1). Last date and time for receiving queries: 22.07.2022 at 4:30 PM. 2). Last date and Time prescribed for submission of Bid(s) (Bid due date): 27.07.2022 at 5:00 PM. 3). Date of pre Bid Meeting: 18.07.2022 at 11:30 AM. 4). Date and time of opening technical bid(s): 29.07.2022 at 11:30 AM. 5). Date and time of opening the Financial Bid(s) of Technically Qualified Bidder(s): 10.08.2022 at 11: 30 AM 6). Validity of Bids 90 days

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560009
Tender Notification (Through E-Procurement portal)
Karnataka Housing Board invites tender for Appointment of Project Management Consultant (PMC) in Karnataka Hosing Board through E-procurement for the below projects.
(1) Name of the Project: Proposed Development of Sites & Services Schemes in block 18 in Suryanagar Phase-4 at Indlavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District. Notification No.: KHB/CE/PMC/NIT No.56/2022-23, Date: 22.06.2022.
(2) Name of the Project: Proposed Development of Sites & Services Schemes in block 19 in Suryanagar Phase-4 at Indlavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District. Notification No.: KHB/CE/PMC/NIT No.57/2022-23, Date: 22.06.2022.
Last date for receipt of tender : 08.07.2022 up to 4.00 PM
For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru, Phone No. 080-22273511 / 080-22100077, website : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/1112/AKAR/22-23
Wear Mask · Follow Physical Distancing · Maintain Hand Hygiene

IN BRIEF

Ujjal Bhuyan is Chief Justice of Telangana

HYDERABAD

Justice Ujjal Bhuyan has been sworn in Chief Justice of Telangana High Court on Tuesday. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan administered the oath of office to Chief Justice designate Justice Ujjal Bhuyan at Raj Bhavan at 10:05 a.m. Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao, Speakers of Assembly and Council Pocharam Srinivas Reddy and Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, judges of the High Court and several public representatives along with top officials were present.

Malayalam actor Ambika Rao passes away

THRISSUR

Kumbalangi Nights-fame actor and assistant director Ambika Rao passed away on Monday night following a cardiac arrest. She was 58 and is survived by two sons. The actor was admitted to a hospital in Ernakulam after she was tested positive for COVID-19 and was suffering from other illnesses. She has performed supporting roles in many popular films such as *Virus, Salt N' Pepper, Meesha Madhavan, Gramophone and Pattalam.*

Court rejects plea to cancel Dileep's bail

KOCHI

The prosecution plea to withdraw the bail granted to actor Dileep in the 2017 actor rape case was dismissed by the Special Court on Tuesday. The prosecution would file an appeal against the order, the prosecutors said. Arguing for cancelling bail, the prosecution had said Dileep had influenced witnesses in the case and tampered with evidence which was refuted by the actor's lawyers.

LDF govt. allows discussion on gold row

UDF questions CM on Swapna's allegations

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Activists staging a protest against the Kerala Chief Minister for his alleged involvement in a gold smuggling case. • FILE PHOTO

The Left Democratic Front (LDF) government on Tuesday attempted to draw a line under the UAE diplomatic baggage gold smuggling scandal by "unexpectedly" conceding an Opposition demand to adjourn the Assembly to discuss the controversy.

Swapna Suresh, an accused in the economic offence, had cast Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at the centre of the furore by testifying against him and his family in a court of law.

Subsequently, the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had unleashed an aggressive street campaign for Mr. Vijayan's resignation.

The government's latest gambit seemed in stark contrast to its earlier rejection of two Opposition motions to discuss the topic. Mr. Vijayan responded to the submission: "Let the public realise the truth."

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan objected to the government's "condescending" tone. "Public backlash had forced the humiliating climb down," he said.

The UDF framed its accusations as questions to paint a vivid picture of how the previous LDF government had allegedly given free rein to gold smugglers. They asked whether Mr. Vijayan had any intelligence warning. The Opposition relied on court statements and testimonies to drive home its narrative.

CBI inquiry sought

The UDF wanted to know why the government had moved to prosecute Swapna instead of countering her charges legally. It asked whether the government had employed dubious mediators and plainclothes officers to coerce Swapna into retracting the "damning testimony" against Mr. Vijayan.

They challenged Mr. Vijayan to face a CBI inquiry to clear his name. Harsh partisan exchanges, sometimes bordering on the personal, marked the four-hour debate.

At one point, Mr. Vijayan censured the Opposition for "dragging" his family into the controversy. The Chief Minister slammed the "right wing media" for the "scurrilous attack" on his integrity.

The LDF's riposte was premeditated and pointed. It restated that a Congress-BJP axis had resurrected old lies to denigrate the government. Mr. Satheesan countered that the LDF raised the "RSS bogey" when cornered. "If Sangh Parivar harboured Swapna currently, the CPI (M) was her benefactor earlier," he said.

The CPI(M) legislators alleged the Centre had scuttled the probe at the outset by stating the the UAE consulate had no role in the crime. The House rejected the motion by voice vote.

The Hindu Career Counselling in Bengaluru on July 2

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The 20th edition of The Hindu EducationPlus Career Counselling 2022 Karnataka is being held at 10 locations in nine cities in June and July.

The event will cover educational topics like CET, COMEDK, NEET, general education (offbeat courses), Law, Pure Science, Arts, Science & Commerce, Management, PGDM, Engineering & Medicine. The event sets a benchmark in educational and professional guidance. It acts as a platform to connect students and parents with speakers and educational institutions. The event also helps students to take the right decisions after getting the necessary counselling and guidance. Platinum Sponsor for the event are: Presidency University, Bengaluru, Ramaiah University, Bengaluru, and Reva University, Bengaluru. The Gold Sponsors are Cambridge Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, Nitte Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, and Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumakuru. Silver Sponsors for the event are ACS College of Engineering, Bengaluru; K. S. Group of Institutions, Bengaluru; Rajarajeswari College of Engineering, Bengaluru; Soundarya Institute of Management and Science, Bengaluru; Universal Group of Institutions, Bengaluru, Atria Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, and TAPMI, a unit of Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bengaluru. Other associate Sponsors are: CMR University, Bengaluru, KSOU, Mysuru; Shaheen Group of Institutions, Bidar, and Sri Sairam College of Engineering, Bengaluru. Timings for registration is between 8.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. The event will be held between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. For details, contact: 9739273958 / 9448160126 / 9448871815. Entry is free. First 300 walk-ins will get a surprise gift. All participating students will get free English proficiency test, STEP.

The schedule

Place	Date	Venue	Address
• Bengaluru South	July 2	Mangala Mantapa Auditorium	NMKRV College for Women campus 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru
• Hubballi	July 2	K.L.E. Society's Biotechnology Auditorium	B.V.B. College of Engineering & Technology Campus, Vidyanagar,Hubballi
• Ballari	July 3	BPSC Pre-University College	BPSC Pre-University College, Anantapur Road, Ballari
• Mysuru	July 3	Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering	P.B. No.206, Gokulam 3rd Stage, Mysuru
• Davangere	July 3	Bapuji Business School	Bapuji MBA College , Lake View Campus, S.S. Layout, Davangere

THE HINDU EDUCATION PLUS CAREER COUNSELLING 2022 KARNATAKA

To pre-register for the event and STEP test, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3N2Sy2F

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam, Sikkim, Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Konkan & Goa, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Ladakh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Karaikal and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	33.4	27.2	Kozhikode	12	31.0	25.2
Ahmedabad	–	37.4	27.9	Kurnool	3	33.7	25.4
Aizawl	–	23.8	22.1	Lucknow	–	40.6	30.2
Allahabad	–	41.6	30.7	Madurai	–	37.4	25.1
Bengaluru	–	27.5	20.2	Mangaluru	40.4	29.5	22.7
Bhopal	–	36.0	25.6	Mumbai	8	29.1	26.0
Bhubaneswar	0.6	34.0	26.4	Mysuru	–	31.0	20.4
Chandigarh	–	37.8	31.5	New Delhi	–	41.5	30.8
Chennai	7	34.1	25.2	Patna	–	33.4	29.3
Coimbatore	–	32.1	22.5	Port Blair	0.1	31.8	25.4
Dehradun	3	34.4	24.2	Puducherry	–	36.2	27.0
Gangtok	22.8	19.0	17.8	Pune	7.6	30.3	22.4
Goa	13	30.7	24.7	Raipur	–	36.4	26.2
Guwahati	4	29.6	26.2	Ranchi	–	32.4	23.5
Hubballi	–	28.0	21.0	Shillong	9	23.9	18.6
Hyderabad	2	30.8	22.4	Shimla	–	28.1	22.6
Imphal	9	29.7	22.1	Srinagar	–	33.2	19.0
Jaipur	–	41.4	32.2	Thiruvananthapuram	0.9	31.0	24.2
Kochi	14	30.0	23.4	Tiruchi	–	36.7	26.5
Kohima	2	23.8	16.4	Vijayawada	3	31.0	25.0
Kolkata	–	35.3	27.6	Visakhapatnam	–	33.0	27.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO2	NO2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	111	90	42	40	
Bengaluru	16	21	24	100	95	
Chennai	51	24	121	32	89	
Delhi	5	53	34	196	228	
Hyderabad	16	12	23	74	74	
Kolkata	11	13	17	59	70	
Lucknow	10	61	60	136	117	
Mumbai	64	30	51	25	32	
Pune	127	182	61	65	52	
Visakhapatnam	14	43	29	56	87	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Rohtak, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 219 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public are hereby notified on behalf of, and under instructions from my client Sri T. Govarchen, s/o. Late V.P. Thiruvengadam, Residing at No.1/1, Muniswamappa Layout, Old Madras Road, Halasuru, Bengaluru — 560 008, that the property described in the schedule to this notice is the subject matter of an Agreement of Sale dated 10.6.2021 that Sri Rajesh S., S/o. late Shamanna, Residing at No. 3, Muniswamappa Layout, Old Madras Road, Halasuru, Bengaluru — 560 008, has entered into with my client that the said property would be sold by the said Sri Rajesh S. in favour of my client. An advance of sale consideration of Rs.45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs only) has also been duly received by the said Sri Rajesh S. who had not however disclosed to my client that the said property was been charged in favour of the IndusInd Bank for a huge loan that he has borrowed on the strength of the said property and that the said debt due to the Bank having not been cleared by the borrower the Bank has issued to him, on 23.12.2021 a registered Legal Notice under the SARFAESI ACT 2002.

It is learnt by my client that the said Sri Rajesh S.has been negotiating with potential and gullible purchasers, for selling the schedule property, without the factum of the charge in favour of the Bank and the existence of the Sale Agreement dated 10.6.2021 containing a provision of specific enforcement thereof being not disclosed to any purchaser/s.

Therefore, the public are hereby notified that any kind of transaction in respect of the schedule property with Sri. Rajesh S or anyone representing him would not bind my client, nor would the same, in any way affect the right of the IndusInd Bank proceeding to instituting action against the schedule property, and hence it would be expedient that no one would enter into any kind of transaction with Sri Rajesh S. in respect of the said property.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the portion of the immoveable property bearing Site No.3, Muniswamappa Layout, Old Madras Road, Halasuru, Bangalore - 560 008 measuring 1680 Square Feet and bounded on: **East** by: Road, **West** by: Private Property, **North** by: Private property, **South** by: Private Property.

B.S. VIJAYALAKSHMI
ADVOCATE
36, 'Vagdevi', Shankara Park, Shankarapuram, Bangalore-560004
Mob : 9448278209

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, Fax No. 080-22133365
Email ID : eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com (www.kpwd.gov.in).
E-Portal : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Ref: No.11/2022-23 Date: 27.06.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Item - rate tenders , for the work in No.2 North Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per e procurement procedure . Tender Notifications are Published for **12 works (Rs.70.00 to 490.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in E-procurement portal.**

Eligible contractors interested in tendering for the work may apply for the tender through e-procurement.

1. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **16.07.2022 onwards.**
2. Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 16:00 hours on **06.08.2022.**
3. The opening of tenders through e - procurement portal on **08.08.2022 at 16.30 hours** or further date and time will be intimated.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Bangalore Division, Bangalore.

DIPR/CPIRO1098/WAPL/2022-23

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹಾವೇರಿ
ಸಂ.033/ಬಪ/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/5054-4059/2021-22/1776 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28-06-2022

ಮುಂದೂಡಿದ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ.03

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ.033/ಬಪ/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/5054-4059/2021-22/6946/ದಿನಾಂಕ:24-03-2022, ಮುಂದೂಡಿದ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ.ಇ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:266/ದಿನಾಂಕ:20-04-2022 ಮತ್ತು ಮುಂದೂಡಿದ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ.2ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:1641/ದಿನಾಂಕ:23-06-2022ರಲ್ಲಿನ ಅನುಸಾರಣಿ ಕ್ರಮ.1 (ಸಂ.151788), 3 (ಸಂ.151813), 9 (ಸಂ.151814) ಮತ್ತು 10 (ಸಂ.151811)ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಮರು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ವೇಳೆ : **06-07-2022**ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 04-00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (2) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ವೇಳೆ : **07-07-2022**ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 04-30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (3) ಹಣಕಾಸು ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ವೇಳೆ : **11-07-2022** ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 04-30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿಂದಲೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಹಾವೇರಿ.

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ/ಜಾಹೀರಾತು/114/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
KALINADI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT STAGE-II
Kadra and Kodasalli Power House
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. KPCL/2022-23/IOW/WORK_INDENT 12343/CALL-2 Date: 22.06.2022

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION

(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)

KPCL invites sealed bids in duplicate through GoK e-Procurement platform **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **"Supply, Installation and demonstration of portable fire extinguishers of different types and capacity at Kadra Power House, Kodasalli Power House, Office Premises, School and Hospital"** from reputed bidders with proven track record of successful completion of similar nature of works. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 30,03,284/-**. EMD: **Rs. 60,100/-**. Period of completion: **Delivery Period for Supply: 12 weeks** from the date of LOA/ detailed order whichever is earlier. **Installation and demonstration Period: 1 Month** for each Power House/**Premise** from the date of handing over of site and work shall be taken up simultaneously by deputing separate Commissioning teams. Last date & time tender Queries & Clarifications: **01.07.2022, 17:00Hrs.** Last date & time for On-Line Submission of tenders: **05.07.2022, 17:00Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid: **07.07.2022, 10:30Hrs.** Opening of Financial Bid: **09.07.2022, 10:30Hrs.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Superintending Engineer(Ele.,) Kadra, KPCL, Kadra - 581 396, Taluk Karwar, Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka.** Mobile No.: **91-94495 99133,** E-mail: **seekadrakpcl@yahoo.co.in**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R.Circle, Bangalore-560001
Telephone No.080-22133370 Email: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
website: www.kpwd.gov.in

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
NO.10/2022-23 DT-24.06.2022

E-Portal: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Item-rate tenders, for the work in No.1 South Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in public procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D as per e-procurement procedure. Tender Notification published for 07 work (Rs 150.00 to 950.00 lakhs) Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in E-Procurement portal.** Eligible Contractors interested in tendering for the work may apply for the tender through e-procurement. **1).** Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from Dated: **08.07.2022 onwards. 2).** Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal **on or before 16.00 hours on dated: 06.08.2022. 3).** The opening of tenders through e-procurement portal on dated: **08.08.2022 at 16.30 hours** or further date and time will be intimate. For more details contact this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore

DIPR/CPI/Adv/I/1087/2022-23

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned government of Karnataka undertaking)

No. GESCOM/SEE (Procurement)/EE/AEE/2022-23/16531-35 Date: 27.06.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

(Reserved for Schedule Tribe only) PC-1120 (call-2): Establishment of Transformer repair center at Sandur and carrying out repairs to faulty 25/63/100 KVA conventional type Distribution Transformers of O&M sub-division GESCOM Sandur as per GESCOM specifications. Tender amount : Rs. 49.91 Lakhs. **(Short term tender) PC-1193:** Manufacture and supply of various types of poles to GESCOM O&M division Bidar as per GESCOM specification Tender amount : Rs. 516.33 Lakhs.

Dates: Bid documents available at e-procurement: on or after 29.06.2022, Last Date: 14.07.2022. Opening of Technical/Price bid : 16.07.2022 / 18.07.2022.

Bidder Qualifying Requirement: As per tender documents (IFB): **For additional information Contact:** Executive Engineer El., Procurement, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585 102. Mobile: 9448359006. Web Site Address: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/302/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Procurement),
GESCOM, Corporate Office, Kalaburagi

Government of Karnataka
(Public Works, Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.W.D, SEDAM DIVISION, SEDAM

No.PWD/Ts-1/corrigendum/2022-23/ 914 Date: 27-06-2022.

CORRIGENDUM NOTIFICATION

Sub:- Tenders called in e-Procurement for the works under 5054- SH & 5054-MDR Improvements For The Year -2021-22 in Sedam and Chincholi Taluka.

Ref:- 1) This office tender notification No. 300, Dated : 04-05-2022
2) This office tender notification No. 585, Dated : 31-05-2022.

With reference to the above subject, The tender called for the works from Sedam taluka Work Indent No. 151908. Chincholi taluka Work Indent No. 152051 read as 153489, 156076 read as &153543 & 152086 are postponed by technical issue in the e-procurement Portal. The Calendar of Events for the works read is under.

1) Pre-Bid Meeting Date : **27/07/2022 upto 17.30 Hrs.,** 2) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications : **29/07/2022 upto 17.30 Hrs.,** 3) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : **01/08/2022 at 16.00 Hrs.,** 4) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **02/08/2022 at 16.30 Hrs.,** 5) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid : **04/08/2022 at 16.30 Hrs.**

Tender condition in the original notification remains same and the information may be got from the website of e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka (https//www.eproc.Karnataka.gov.in)

DIPR/Kalaburagi/301/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.W.D Division Sedam

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ನಾಗರಹೊಳೆ ಹುಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಹುಣಸೂರು
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಬಿ4/ಗಿಜಮು/ಸಿ.ಆರ್-37/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.06.2022

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಗರಹೊಳೆ ಹುಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) ಹಾಗೂ ಬಾಕ್ಸ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕೆಲಸದ ವಿವರ	ಪರಿಮಾಣ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
ವೀಕ್ಷಣಾ ರೇಖೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್)	531.60 ಕಿ.ಮೀ.	135.79
ಹುಲ್ಲು ಹಾಸು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್)	914.38 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್	201.98
ಸೋಲಾರ್ ತಂತಿ ಬೇಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್)	50 ಕಿ.ಮೀ	64.88
ಸಿವಿಲ್ / ಇತರೆಕಾಮಗಾರಿ/ ಸೇವೆಗಳು (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್)	12 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	177.86
ಸಿವಿಲ್ / ಇತರೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ/ ಸೇವೆಗಳು (ಬಾಕ್ಸ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್)	13 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	26.53

1) ಮೇಲಿನ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗುವ ಅನುದಾನದ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.07.2022; ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.07.2022 3) Bid Validity – 180 Days. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08222-252041 E-Mail : dirnagarahole@aranya.gov.in

ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ನಾಗರಹೊಳೆ ಹುಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಹುಣಸೂರು.

DIPR/DDMYS/MCA/173/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
(Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga

No: EE/RWSS/Dvn/SMG/JE/JJM/E-Proc/2022-23/647 Date : 24.06.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, tenders have been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000 to undertake the following works in the limits of Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga under Jal Jeevan Mission Project.

Indent Nos.: 1) 41319 2) 41320 3) 41321 4) 41323 5) 41324 6) 41372 7) 41475 8) 41493 9) 41383 10) 41380 11) 41381 12) 41404 13) 41403.

Tender details, terms and conditions, corrigendum or changes are available on website : **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and the eligible contractors/bidders should submit their bids and required documents on e-portal only.

Tender Schedules :

(1) Last date for receiving tenders from contractors : **06/08.07.2022 at 5.30 P M.** (2) Date of opening of Double cover Technical Bid : **08/10.07.2022 at 11.30 A M.** (3) Date of opening of Double cover Financial bid : **10/12.07.2022 at 11.30 A M.** (4) Time fixed for completion of works : **Double cover: 3 months (90 days)**

DIPR/SMG/No.140-06 zenkar/2022-23

sd/- Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Shivamogga

The essence of time

Judicial intervention should strengthen anti-defection law, not undermine it

Time is of the essence when it comes to executing political manoeuvres to reduce a government to a minority. Dissident legislators need time to gather enough numbers to vote out the regime. Ruling parties need to close the window of opportunity soon, often using the threat of disqualification for defection. It is in this backdrop that judicial intervention in matters relating to disqualifying lawmakers for defection takes place – either buying the dissidents time or allowing disqualification proceedings to go on unhindered. By its order granting time until July 12 to dissident Shiv Sena legislators in the Maharashtra Assembly to reply to the Deputy Speaker's notice under the anti-defection law, the Supreme Court has effectively made it possible for them to actualise their objective without the threat of disqualification for now. It is doubtful whether the Court should have done this in the face of a specific bar on judicial intervention in disqualification proceedings at any stage prior to final adjudication under the Tenth Schedule. In 1992 (*Kilhoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu*), a Constitution Bench, while upholding the validity of the anti-defection law, held that the Speaker's decision was subject to judicial review, albeit on limited grounds. It also made it clear that this should take place after a final decision, and there can be no interim order, except if there is an interim disqualification or suspension.

The Deputy Speaker's grant of just two days for the MLAs to reply may have occasioned the intervention; but it is doubtful whether the Court should concern itself with the question now, when it can be decided after their possible disqualification. There are Court judgments that say compliance with natural justice is not based on the number of days given, but on whether sufficient opportunity was given before a decision. Based on a conclusion in *Nabam Rebia* (2016) that a Presiding Officer should not adjudicate any defection complaint while a motion for his own removal is pending, the dissidents sent a motion to get the Deputy Speaker removed. After he rejected it, the rejection has also been questioned in court, thus raising a jurisdiction question on the adjudicatory power of the Deputy Speaker, who, of necessity, has to decide disqualification questions in the absence of a Speaker. Motions to remove a Presiding Officer should not become a ploy to circumvent disqualification proceedings. If courts countenance manoeuvres to pre-empt a decision on whether legislators camping in another State and questioning the Chief Minister's majority have incurred disqualification by "voluntarily giving up membership" of their party, they undermine the anti-defection law and render nugatory rulings by Constitution Benches. When defection is seen as a serious menace by the Constitution, courts should not act in furtherance of it. The duty to protect those wrongly disqualified is important, but so is calling to account defectors whose motives are suspect.

Glimmer of hope

The U.S. still has complex questions to resolve on unrestricted gun ownership

Transcending partisan stalemate for the first time in several generations, the U.S. Congress has passed, and President Joe Biden signed into law, a gun regulation bill to place several important constraints on the proliferation of firearms across the country. The bipartisan gun reform law, titled the Bipartisan Safer Communities (BSC) Act, was passed earlier in the Senate, with a final vote of 65 to 33 including 15 Republicans who joined Democrats in support of the measure, and then at the House of Representatives, by a margin of by 234-193 votes, with 14 Republicans crossing the aisle to vote. While the bill goes a considerable distance in reining in the relatively unhindered sale of firearms across weapons buyer profiles, it falls far short of the critical regulations that Democrats have been pressing for. The law also comes into force shortly on the heels of the U.S. Supreme Court striking down a New York law limiting concealed carrying of guns. Nevertheless, the bipartisan character of the bill reflects the best hope for a gradual and marginal shift in the public discourse on gun ownership and its right guaranteed by the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The fact that such a bill passed both houses of Congress and reached Mr. Biden's desk also reflects the deep shock that the nation experienced in the recent acts of gun violence in a school in Texas, and at a New York store.

Therein lies the limited scope of the bipartisan gun reform law – it does nothing to address the question of limiting the availability of this weapon, nor does it yield any quarter to the long-standing demand by Democrats to institute universal background checks for those buying the firearms. Within its core ambit the law does mandate expanded background checks, including state and local juvenile and mental health records of gun purchasers aged 18 to 20 years; closing of the "boyfriend loophole" by denying gun ownership to convicted domestic violence offenders under certain conditions; 'red flag laws' that will grant federal funds to States with laws enabling removal of guns from persons deemed dangerous; and sets aside nearly $13 billion for education and advocacy towards improving mental health in schools, crisis intervention, violence prevention programmes, mental health worker training and school safety. However, the law does not hint at reviving the assault weapons ban of 1994, which expired a decade later, since which time this category of weapon has become the most frequently used in lethal mass shootings. While the BSC Act is a welcome step in the right direction, the U.S. has a long road ahead and complex questions to resolve regarding its obsession with unrestricted gun ownership before mass shootings in public places stop occurring.

The Shiv Sena at the political crossroads

The party has undergone changes, demonstrating its resilience, but, today, it could be facing its most severe crisis

PARIMAL MAYA SUDHAKAR

Rebellions are not new to the Shiv Sena. However, the scale of defections of the Members of the Legislative Assembly is unprecedented in Maharashtra's political history and is perhaps only second to N. Chandrababu Naidu's revolt against N.T. Rama Rao in Andhra Pradesh politics in the mid-1990s. The defecting MLAs are primarily giving three reasons in one voice for their extreme step.

Style of leadership

The first complaint of rebel Shiv Sena MLA Eknath Shinde's camp is the inaccessibility of Uddhav Thackeray as the Maharashtra Chief Minister. There is much truth in this allegation in part due to Mr. Uddhav's health issues in the times of COVID-19 and also because of his style of leadership. He believes more in a delegation of responsibilities and some sort of a collective leadership, which is in sharp contrast with Bal Thackeray, his father. In the ministry, as a result, Mr. Eknath Shinde, Aaditya Thackeray (both from the Shiv Sena), Ajit Pawar (Nationalist Congress Party, or the NCP) and Balasaheb Thorat of the Congress have been in control of daily affairs.

At the same time, Devendra Fadnavis, as a leader of the opposition, has adopted a three-pronged strategy. He was always open to meeting all the MLAs, with warmth, extensively toured the State, and was constantly plotting against the Thackeray government. The media trials in the high-profile Sushant Rajput and Aryan Khan cases, allegations of corruption against NCP Ministers Anil Deshmukh and Nawab Malik (both are under arrest now) and the prompting of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) leader Raj Thackeray to take up the issue of loudspeakers in masjids were all used by Mr. Fadnavis within and outside the Assembly to try and corner the Shiv Sena.

These issues, more than the unavailability of Uddhav Thackeray, have disturbed many Sena legislators. The fact of the matter is that the Shiv Sena is not a party of governance at the State level. Out of the 56 years of its existence, the Shiv Sena was in power all together for 10 years which includes its present stint. Unlike the Congress and the NCP, its Ministers and MLAs are not conversant with what it means to be on the treasury benches. It really will not matter to the Shiv Sena if it loses power. The real challenge for the party would be to retain the municipal corporations as and when elections there take place.

Electoral strength

The second apprehension of the rebel camp is regarding the NCP's aggression and the threat it poses to their own existence. Undoubtedly, out of the three alliance partners in the government, i.e. the Maha Vikas Aghadi, the NCP is making the most effective use of power to strengthen its presence and its organisation across the State. Whether it poses a large-scale threat to the Shiv Sena is questionable.

For example, in regions such as Mumbai and its suburbs as well as in Vidarbha, the NCP has barely an electorally strong presence. In Konkan, Marathwada and western Maharashtra, there are pockets where the NCP and the Shiv Sena have an overlapping presence.

PTI

An analysis of election results of the Shiv Sena legislators throws up interesting facts. Out of the 56 seats won by the Shiv Sena in 2019, the Congress had its candidates in 26 seats while the NCP had its candidates in the fray in 28 seats. Out of the 26 seats that the Shiv Sena won against the Congress, the grand old party was a runner-up only in 14 seats. It came distant third, fourth and fifth in nine, two and one Assembly segments, respectively. Out of the 14 seats where the Congress was runner-up *vis-à-vis* the Shiv Sena, the Sena registered a very impressive victory in eight seats, a comfortable win in five seats and had a narrow margin in one seat. Out of the 28 seats that the Shiv Sena won against the NCP, the NCP was a runner-up in 20 seats. Out of these 20 seats, the Shiv Sena's victory margin was impressive in eight seats, comfortable in 10 seats and narrow in two seats. In the rest of the eight seats, the NCP came a distant third, fourth and fifth in five, two and one seats, respectively. This data shows that not many Shiv Sena MLAs face an existential threat from the NCP or the Congress provided they had won the election not on the strength of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

The third and most important allegation of the Sena rebels is that Uddhav Thackeray is not true to his father, Balasaheb Thackeray's Hindutva. The formation of a government with the Congress and the NCP (the Maha Vikas Aghadi) itself is perceived to be a sign of a weakening of the Shiv Sena's position on Hindutva. However, the Shiv Sena under Mr. Uddhav Thackeray has not taken this position suddenly in 2019.

In terms of ideology

In the aftermath of the 2014 Lok Sabha election, Mr. Thackeray probably realised the emergence of Narendra Modi as the Prime Minister as a major threat to the Shiv Sena's existence. Prior to the Prime Minister's emergence, the Shiv Sena was placed right to the BJP as far as Hindutva ideology has been concerned. Balasaheb Thackeray was adored by many activists of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the BJP for his uncompromising and fiery positions on Hindutva, while the combination of Atal Bihari Vajpayee-L.K. Advani was considered to be soft on many issues.

The Prime Minister's leadership has brought the BJP on a par with the Shiv Sena in terms of a radicalisation of religious identity politics. The choice before Uddhav Thackeray to preserve the Shiv Sena's own identity was either to project himself as being more Hindutvavadi 'than thou' or to cast the Shiv Sena as the party associated with the interests of Maharashtra.

He has chosen the second option without giving up the Hindutva identity. From 2014 until recently, none of the defecting Shiv Sena leaders has shown any (visible) signs of discomfiture with Uddhav Thackeray's politics. The Shiv Sena leadership has always been cautious about its alliance with the Congress and the NCP, and has been consciously maintaining the Shiv Sena's Hindutva identity. Mr. Thackeray attempted to create optics of this at the swearing-in ceremony (for example, wearing a saffron kurta). The Shiv Sena has unambiguously supported the Modi government in Parliament on a reading down of Article 370 (before the Maharashtra Assembly election), on the Ram Mandir issue, on the Triple Talaq bill and on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Based on this record, Mr. Thackeray seems to be questioning the rebels on their allegation of a softening of the party's stand on Hindutva. The Shiv Sena leadership is questioning the rebels' position that one has to be an ally of the BJP to champion Hindutva. According to it, the BJP has no monopoly on Hindutva ideology. In the past few weeks, Mr. Thackeray has repeatedly stated that unlike the RSS's brand of Hindutva, the Shiv Sena's Hindutva stands for defending the interests of Hindus and India without being poisonous.

The Shiv Sena is also raising questions on the RSS's participation in the freedom movement and the sincerity of the Government (at the Centre) in protecting the lives of the Kashmiri Pandits. This much, however, is not sufficient for Mr. Thackeray to distinguish the Shiv Sena's Hindutva from the RSS-BJP's Hindutva. Eventually, he might be required to bring in, partially, the concept of a Bahujanwadi Hindutva as espoused by his grandfather and reformist, Prabodhankar Thackeray. The Shiv Sena has undergone fundamental changes on a few occasions since its inception, demonstrating its resilience every time. Today it is facing its most severe crisis. Its fightback has also begun.

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Remembering the 'Plan Man' of India

Revisiting the country's statistical inheritance from P.C. Mahalanobis assumes importance in today's data-driven world

ATANU BISWAS

Today, June 29, is national 'Statistics Day', in 'recognition of the contributions made by Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis', the 'Plan Man' of India; it is also his birthday. It was P.C. Mahalanobis, who established a strong statistical culture in India and nourished it diligently through his lifelong endeavours. Incidentally, June 28 also marked 50 years since his passing. Revisiting the life of India's statistical inheritance from P.C. Mahalanobis is of utmost importance as various kinds of concerns regarding data collection, its publication, and data quality have emerged in recent years.

Mahalanobis certainly believed data to be instrumental in efficient planning for national and human development. Planning in the newly independent nation in the 1950s was largely based on the data obtained from various surveys. His fairytale-type success story is due to the blending of his talent with his dedication that thrives into perfection. The socio-political situation and Jawaharlal Nehru's reliance on Mahalanobis certainly helped.

Ties with Tagore

At the centenary of Rabindranath Tagore's Visva Bharati University – which Mahalanobis was instrumental in shaping in its most difficult formative years – it might be very interesting to discuss the relationship between two of the greatest Bengali stalwarts, i.e., Tagore and Mahalanobis. Tagore treated Mahalanobis as a close confidant, despite an age gap of 32 years, and they shared a three decades long friendship. Mahalanobis explained to Rani, his future wife: "It will be wrong to say he [Tagore] is my Guru..., 'I love him' is the right expression."

Chancing upon statistics

Young Mahalanobis came to know about statistics, the subject, 'by chance' when, in 1915, his voyage to India from England was delayed. However, it is possible that Tagore was instrumental in bringing Mahalanobis, a professor of physics at Calcutta's Presidency College, into formal statistical activities, when, in 1917, he introduced him to the scholar and educator, Brajendranath Seal, who asked Mahalanobis to analyse the examination records of Calcutta University. It was perhaps Mahalanobis's first statistical venture with real-life data.

Seventeen-year-old Mahalanobis first met Tagore at Santiniketan in 1910. Then, as Satyajit Ray wrote, "When Rabindranath came to London in 1912 with his translation of *Gitanjali*, Prasantachandra, Kedarnath [Chattopadhyay] and my father [the Poet and writer Sukumar Roy] were present. He [Sukumar] mentions gathering in Rothenstein's house more than once in his letters."

The bonding between Tagore and Mahalanobis, however, was strengthened. In 1919, when Tagore had written a public letter to Lord Chelmsford, the Viceroy of India, protesting the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and renouncing knighthood, he asked Mahalanobis to read it first. Mahalanobis accompanied Tagore on many of his international visits, mostly in the 1920s. He often documented the details of such trips with rigour. With a statistician's perfection, Mahalanobis wrote a series of essays titled 'Rabindra Parichay' ('Introduction to Rabindra') for the prestigious Bengali magazine, *Probashi*. He also wrote a book, *Rabindranath Tagore's Visit to Canada* in 1929. When Tagore met Einstein in 1930, Mahalanobis was also with him. In fact, Einstein asked Tagore about a young scientist named Bose. Tagore was surprised as Jagadish Chandra Bose, Tagore's friend, was certainly no longer a young man. Mahalanobis then informed Tagore about Satyendra Nath Bose, another doyen, who would be ever-remembered for Boson, at least.

THE HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES

Mahalanobis introduced Tagore to cinema when, in 1917, he took Nitin Bose, the father of cinema technique, to Bolpur. At the request of Tagore, Nitin Bose photographed a dance recital of girls. The 17-minute film was processed in an improvised lab in Mahalanobis' laboratory at Presidency College. Mahalanobis, at the Presidency College during that period, was a mixture of physicist and statistician. More precisely, a physicist was turning into a statistician, slowly but steadily. His physics background certainly helped shape his statistical ideology and perfection, which, in effect, yielded trustworthiness in his surveys, methodologies, and analyses.

Mahalanobis established the Statistical Laboratory within the Baker Laboratory at Presidency College. Tagore also visited the Statistical Laboratory several times. In fact, it was Tagore who coined the Bengali word, 'Rashibijnan' for 'Statistics', and there is little doubt that this was only due to the bonding between Tagore and Mahalanobis. In 1933, Mahalanobis founded *Sankhyā, the Indian Journal of Statistics*. In the first issue of the second volume of *Sankhyā*, Tagore depicted Statistics as "the dance steps of numbers in the arena of time and space, which weave the *maya* of appearance, the incessant flow of changes that ever is and is not".

At Visva Bharati

Mahalanobis, of course, helped Tagore immensely in his dream project – the founding of Visva Bharati. He not only served as a joint secretary of Visva Bharati for 10 years from the beginning but he was also a member of the governing body, executive council, academic council, and the agricultural board. Also, Mahalanobis' contribution to preparing Tagore's life calendar is astonishing. He even corrected some errors here and in also the bibliography prepared by the famous Bengali writer, Prabhat Kumar Mukhopadhyay. When Tagore modified his writings, he wanted to destroy the earlier drafts. Mahalanobis, however, preserved them - a clear conflict between the attitudes of a poet and a statistician. Detailing and perfection were an inherent nature of Mahalanobis. These were also reflected in his surveys and data collection.

Tagore's dance drama, 'Basanta' (meaning 'Spring'), had a premier at the Calcutta University institute auditorium on Mahalanobis' marriage day. Tagore attended the marriage ceremony after the show. He presented them with the manuscript of 'Basanta'. Such a special bonding with the poet, certainly, did supply Mahalanobis with a different kind of light – that would help him create a rich statistical legacy for the country, and a trustworthy system of data collection and analyses. The system worked nicely for a few decades even after his demise.

There is little denying that data, in general, is on an ever-expanding pathway and is growing exponentially. Statistics, the subject, is also changing amid a wave of data science. One needs to adopt, for sure. Attempts such as transforming the Planning Commission to NITI Aayog or merging the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) with the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to form the National Statistical Office (NSO) may not be enough though. One certainly misses a person of the stature of Mahalanobis at the helm of the system. Also, the Mahalanobis-type innovation, dedication, and diligence are dearly missed.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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States and finances

The article by the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), "States, freebies and the costs of fiscal profligacy" (Editorial page, June 28), is apt; there has been a critical analysis of what is going wrong. The central government should put a full stop to the practice of some State governments showing some borrowings as off-budget borrowings, which it appears is equal the debt admitted in the budget books of State governments.

Another interesting point is about the powers the President of India has to declare financial emergency in a State. This should be done in a few States. We all know from the experience of Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Laos that if fiscal discipline is not adhered to, the consequences will be disastrous.

Our public debt (Centre and states combined) (including off-budget borrowings) as a percentage of GDP, is dangerously high.

The amounts States borrow collectively every year is comparable in size to the Centre's borrowing. Punjab is already in a debt trap. States seem to be borrowing recklessly.

N. KALYANARAMAN,
Chennai

Rumblings in AIADMK

Everyone who is in the know of Tamil Nadu politics, is aware that with the passing of M.G. Ramachandran (MGR), a leader with abundant charisma, fissures began to emerge in the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. J. Jayalalithaa, who stepped into the shoes of MGR, was able to prove her mettle as Chief Minister, but this was also a phase that saw the emergence of Sasikala.

The tussle now between OPS and EPS should be sorted out if the party is to remain relevant in State politics.

MANI NATARAJAN,
Chennai

▪ Despite a court intervention, it is unlikely that the marginalisation of O. Panneerselvam will end any time soon. Bitterness between the faction led by him and the one led by his rival, Edappadi K. Palaniswami (EPS), has grown to a point where there could be no room for rapprochement. The EPS faction is dominant in the party and is unlikely to cede any space to OPS. Being an astute politician, EPS is bound to leave no stone unturned to politically annihilate his opponents.

SAMIUL HASSAN QUADRI,
Bikaner, Rajasthan

Maharashtra turmoil

The political situation in Maharashtra – of an unstable government headed by the Shiv Sena – proves how a coalition of ideologically opposed partners is always fragile. The rebels' main complaint is their dissatisfaction with the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Congress. Mr. Uddhav Thackeray some how managed to overcome the hard feelings many of his partymen had in choosing the Congress and the NCP as partners. Now the built-up pressure seems to be exploding in the form of rebels and their actions.

The Maharashtra crisis is a lesson for all political leaders not to over-rule the sentiments of their party men for the sake of acquiring power.

V.S. GANESHAN,
Bengaluru

Bring the shine back on government jobs

Instead of expanding contractual employment, we should seek to bolster public services

FEROZE VARUN GANDHI

Police personnel deployed at Hubballi railway station after security was beefed up following protests against the Agnipath scheme, in Hubballi. • PTI

In 2019, an Indian citizen died of suicide every hour due to joblessness, poverty or bankruptcy, according to the National Crime Records Bureau. About 25,000 Indians died of suicide between 2018 and 2020, said the Union government in the Rajya Sabha in February this year. Several unemployed people in India resort to protests – thousands burnt railway coaches in January 2022 over alleged flaws in the railways recruitment process and more recently, India saw protests over the Agnipath scheme.

A culture of hire and fire

For those employed in government, the situation is not much better. In May 2022, Haryana terminated the services of over 2,000 contractual health workers (nurses, sweepers, security guards, paramedical staff) who had been hired during the pandemic. In Delhi, hundreds of nurses, paramedical staff, lab technicians and other contractual workers have been terminated by Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and others. After banging utensils to thank them, we have fired them.

Additionally, over 8,300 panchayat and rural development contractual staff in Assam staged protests in February 2022. They said they had been in a contractual state for 12-14 years and had not been given bonuses, allowances, pension or pay revisions. In April 2022, some 200 contractual workers of Chhattisgarh's state electricity department were canned-charged and arrested. Being a public servant has rarely mattered less.

The problem is two-fold. First, vacancies in the government are not being filled at a sufficient pace. There were over 60 lakh vacancies in the government across all levels in July 2021. Of these, over 9.1 lakh were in the Central government, while about 2 lakh vacancies were in PSU banks. Additionally, there were over 5.3 lakh vacancies in the State police, while primary schools were estimated to have some 8.3 lakh vacancies. The government has sought to push for recruitment of 10 lakh people in a mission-mode over 1.5 years. However, this would fall short of the size of the problem. We need greater ambition on this front.

Second, where vacancies are being filled, they are notably skewed towards contractual jobs. In 2014, about 43% of government employees (about 12.3 million) had non-permanent or contractual jobs, with about 6.9 million working in key flagship welfare schemes (Anganwadi workers, for instance) with low wages (in some cases, lower than the minimum wage) and little, if any, social security cover, as per the Indian Staffing Industry Research 2014 report. By 2018, the share of government employees in this category had risen to 59%. For Central Public Sector Enterprises, the share of contractual (and non-permanent) employees increased from 19% to 37% (reaching 4,98,807 in March 2020), with permanent employees dropping in share by 25%. Consider select PSUs. ONGC had contractual employees form over 81% of its staff in March 2020. Some States have sought to take this further – in 2020, while the pandemic led to mass unemployment, the State government in Uttar Pradesh sought to amend recruitment for Group B and C employees (of which there were about 9 lakh in 2020 in U.P.), with a push for increasing contractual employment (for a five-year period), with such employees not offered allowances and typical benefits. Post the five-year period, a pathway to regularisation was offered, only if the workers could pass a rigorous performance appraisal; if they did not pass, they would be dismissed. Any dependent of a deceased employee, if appointed to such posts, would also have to go through similar appraisals. In 2013, the Supreme Court ruled that a contractual employee for a government department was not a government servant. If most government employees have contractual terms, will a public ethos continue to exist?

Instead of expanding contractual employment, we should seek to bolster public services. For the past few decades, we have been under-investing in public goods – as witnessed by the COVID-19 crisis, our healthcare system simply does not have the capacity to provide adequate healthcare support to citizens under normal conditions, let alone a pandemic. Expanding public service provisioning will also lead to the creation of good quality jobs, along with skilled labour, offering us social stability. A push for enhancing public health would lead to the creation of societal assets; having more ICU beds in the first place would have ensured that the COVID-19 crisis could have been managed better. A push for a universal basic services programme with public healthcare would also help supplement insurance-based models like Ayushman Bharat. Such spending, however, will eventually lead to an increase in consumer demand and have strong multiplier effects, while generally improving the productivity and quality of life in India's cities and villages.

Job opportunities

Consider renewable power generation. There is significant potential for job creation (for example, in rooftop solar power generation, manufacturing of solar panel modules and end-use servicing). Meanwhile, on the waste management front, there is significant scope for expanding wastewater treatment capacity, with the building and management of treatment plants for sewer waste and faecal sludge treatment plants leading to generation of jobs. Encouraging solid waste treatment practices (such as dry waste collection, micro-composting) could create about 300 jobs per year in a city municipal corporation. A push for adopting electric vehicles and encouraging green mobility would require significant manpower, leading to the generation of 'green jobs'. In addition, we must continue to encourage urban farming, with significant job potential in permaculture, gardening and nursery management. Perhaps another avenue of selective PSU reform could also be considered – a PSU with greater autonomy, with the government retaining control via a holding firm, can also be subject to the right incentives. Surely, Indian PSUs could aspire to be as large and efficient as the Chinese ones.

Government jobs have lost their shine. We need to attract talent to the government. Rather than downsizing or simply avoiding the cost of pensions and benefits, one should right-size government. Our public services require more doctors, teachers, engineers, and fewer data entry clerks. Reforms advocated by the Administrative Reforms Commission should be our initial step. This is the time to build capacity for an efficient civil service that can meet today's challenges - providing a corruption-free welfare system, running a modern economy and providing increasingly better public goods. Improved public service delivery, through better compensation, should be our ethos. 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan' used to be a driving motto for the government of the day. Instead, treating them as dispensable seems to be the norm.

Feroze Varun Gandhi is a Member of Parliament, representing the Pilibhit constituency for the BJP

A problematic provision

Instead of disenfranchising only certain classes of prisoners, the law prohibits anyone in confinement from voting

ADITYA PRASANNA BHATTACHARYA

In States with bicameral legislatures, seats in the Legislative Council are filled following an indirect election in which members of the Legislative Assembly cast votes. On June 20, the members of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly were scheduled to convene at the Vidhan Sabha to elect the members of the Vidhan Parishad. Nawab Malik and Anil Deshmukh, who are in prison in connection with money laundering offences, approached the courts with a prayer: despite their incarceration, they should be temporarily released to cast votes in the election, so that they may discharge their duty as sitting MLAs. Their prayer was rejected, first by a special Judge under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, then by the Bombay High Court, and finally by the Supreme Court.

The yardstick for disenfranchisement

Interestingly, before dismissing the applications, the apex court observed that it is open to reconsidering the legal provision, Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which prevented the two MLAs from casting their votes. In the past, the Supreme Court has observed that the intent of this provision is to maintain the integrity of elections by excluding 'persons with criminal background' from participating in them. Ideally, this objective can be achieved through a provision which disenfranchises persons who have been convicted of certain kinds of grave offences.

However, Section 62(5) does not use conviction as the yardstick for disenfranchisement; it uses confinement. As a result, undertrial prisoners (who constitute over 75% of India's nearly 5 lakh prisoners) cannot vote. Neither can persons detained in civil prison for failing to repay a debt. But remarkably, a person who has been convicted for a criminal offence and has managed to secure bail can vote. If the objective is to keep criminals away from elections, this is an anomaly. Indeed, it appears that as a result of a poor choice of words, an otherwise well-intentioned law has snatched away the right to vote from an undertrial who is presumed to be innocent and from a civil offender, but has granted it to a criminal convict (out on bail) whose guilt has been determined.

This puts Section 62(5) in direct collision with Article 14 of the Constitution (equality before the law to all persons). Whenever a law treats two groups of persons unequally, it must satisfy a set of basic tests under Article 14 to be valid: the distinction created by the law must be based on coherent differences between the two groups of persons, and these differences must have a rational link with the objective that the law seeks to achieve. Section 62(5) treats a group of people differently by stripping them of the right to vote. What sets this group apart from those allowed to vote is their confinement in prison. This has no rational link with the purported object of the law, i.e., keeping criminals away from the electoral process.

As alternatives, the provision could have disenfranchised persons convicted of certain heinous offences or those sentenced for a minimum duration. In the U.K., for instance, only convicts sentenced to prison for four years or more cannot vote. In Germany, only persons convicted of certain political offences are disenfranchised. Where the law formerly restricted all prisoners from voting (Canada, for instance), constitutional courts intervened and struck it down for being arbitrary and disproportionate.

Section 62(5) has survived many challenges before the courts. Each time, the courts have lauded the objective of weeding out criminal elements from the electoral process, but have stopped short of examining whether the provision, in the manner in which it is worded, can claim to achieve this aim. In a welcome move, while dismissing Mr. Malik and Mr. Deshmukh's bail applications, the Supreme Court observed that it is open to reconsidering the constitutionality of the provision. The reason for this shift is that the voters who were deprived in this instance were not seeking to act as ordinary citizens but as constitutional functionaries. Through the MLAs' votes, the residents of their constituencies indirectly exercise their franchise in the election to the Vidhan Parishad. By preventing the two MLAs from casting their votes, the court has inadvertently stripped all their constituents of their franchise.

Finding fault with Section 62(5) for only this reason would be missing the forest for the trees. As a result of its sweeping nature, the provision suffers from a deeper malaise. The question cannot be whether the voter is an ordinary citizen or an MLA, but whether the voter, given their conduct, deserves to participate in the electoral process or not. A constitutional inquiry into Section 62(5) with the former question as its only basis is set for failure. The apex court must re-examine the issue in the totality of its circumstances and Parliament must replace the provision with a tightly worded version disenfranchising only certain classes of prisoners.

Aditya Prasanna Bhattacharya is Research Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

STATE OF PLAY

Out of sync with Dravidianism

R.N. Ravi's statements and positions on various subjects are upsetting the political balance

D. SURESH KUMAR

In the nine months he has occupied the Tamil Nadu Raj Bhavan, Governor R.N. Ravi, unlike most of his predecessors, has shown no hesitancy in propagating ideological and policy positions that go against the Dravidian school of political thought. While some who had handled gubernatorial assignments in the past had shown scholarship, many had confined themselves to attending functions and delivering speeches. They rarely pushed a counter-ideological narrative, even when the ruling parties in the State were opposed to the party running the Union government. However, Mr. Ravi, a former Special Director of the Intelligence Bureau, has disrupted this political balance by openly taking contrarian stands and speaking his mind on issues he holds dear.

Earlier this month, he said: "[Lord] Ayyappa seva is Rashtra seva (national service). There should be no doubt about it because this Rashtra, Bharat, was created by our rishis and sages who expounded and expanded the truth in our vedas, which became our Sanatana Dharma. It is this Sanatana Dharma which built this Bharat." Questioning the notion that unity in diversity is a constitutional construct, he said, "It is not. Constitution doesn't carry the soul of India. Constitution is for the governance of India. Bharat was born thousands... of years before Constitution was written... Sanatana Dharma has to prevail for the sake of the world, humanity".

His defence of Sanatana Dharma created ripples in the rationalist discourse-dominated Tamil Nadu, which has politically for decades opposed it on the grounds that it perpetuates the Varnashrama dharma (caste-related occupation). Leaders such as Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi's Thol Thirumavalavan have been charging the BJP of attempting to make Sanatana Dharma the Constitution of the country. DMK treasurer T.R. Baalu said statements such as these are unbecoming of a person holding a constitutional position and who should propagate secular principles.

On Sunday, the Governor said: "Spine of Bharat is Sanatana Dharma". In an apparent counter to Mr. Baalu's statement, he said vested interests have created the impression that secularism, as defined in the Constitution, had nothing to do with Dharma. "This is a mischievous and distorted interpretation. The political interpretation has put institutions that are supposed to carry Dharma forward in a very hard place. Dharma is all encompassing and inclusive," he said.

On policy matters, Mr. Ravi continues to evangelically push for implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, which the State has rejected. Not only does he feel this is the right time to implement the policy, but he publicly told Higher Education Minister K. Ponmudy, "I would suggest [that you] kindly go through the NEP. You see the vast vistas it opens."

Mr. Ravi has also made political remarks on subjects outside the purview of his office. Last month he dubbed the Popular Front of India "a very dangerous organisation whose aim is to destabilise the country".

While the ruling DMK has occasionally expressed its disapproval of the Governor's views through its party mouthpiece Murasoli, a section of academics too is opposed to his stand. In a recent letter, State Platform for Common School System (Tamil Nadu) general secretary P.B. Prince Gajendra Babu urged the Governor to uphold the Constitution and "respect the mandate of the people and desist from engaging himself in countering the policy position of the duly elected government".

Meanwhile, the State government is awaiting the Governor's assent for the 21 Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly that were sent to Raj Bhavan many months ago.

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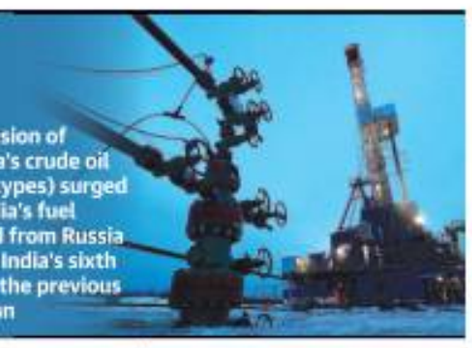
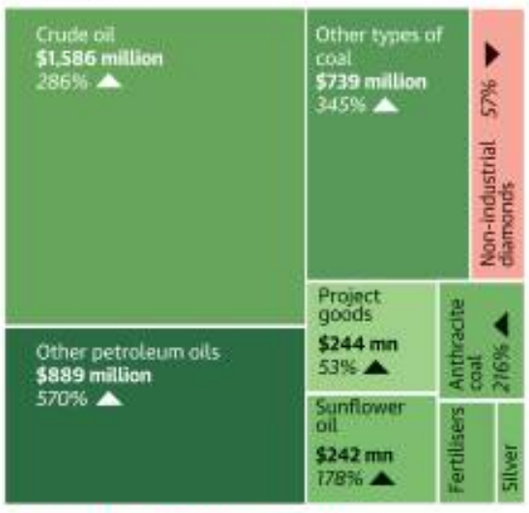
DATA POINT

India's imports from Russia soar amid sanctions



Amid international sanctions imposed against Russia after its invasion of Ukraine in February, India's imports from Russia have soared. India's crude oil imports from Russia surged by 286% while coal imports (certain types) surged by over 345% in the January-April 2022 period. About 7.5% of India's fuel needs (crude oil, coal, natural gas, etc.,) in April 2022 was sourced from Russia compared to 2% or less in many of the previous years. Russia was India's sixth largest import partner in the April-May 2022 period. In several of the previous years, it had occupied the 20th position. By Vignesh Radhakrishnan

1. IMPORTS FROM RUSSIA | The graph depicts the items imported from Russia in 2022 (January to April). The bigger the square, the higher the import value in $million in the January-April 2022 period. The deeper the green, the more the increase in % terms compared to the five-year average between FY17 and FY21. For instance, India imported $1,526 million worth crude oil from Russia, 286% more than the FY17-FY21 average



2. SHARE OF FUEL | The table lists the share of a country in India's total imports of mineral fuels/mineral oils (including crude oil, coal, coke, liquified natural gas, etc). India's dependancy on Russia for its fuel needs increased from around 2% in previous years to 7.5% in April 2022 (FY23). India reduced its energy dependance on Nigeria and Kuwait in April 2022

Country	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18
Iraq	16.3	16.2	14.2	15.4	13.3	13.3
S. Arabia	14.7	14.2	13.0	15.1	14.6	13.5
UAE	13.4	10.4	11.9	10.5	8.1	6.9
Russia	**7.5%**	**2.7**	**2.1**	**2.1**	**1.3**	**1.6**
U.S.	7.1	8.6	8.7	5.4	4.3	3.0
Australia	6.7	6.8	6.1	5.0	5.8	7.1
Qatar	6.3	5.6	6.8	5.5	5.5	5.4
Indonesia	5.1	3.5	5.0	4.4	4.3	4.8
Nigeria	3.3	5.1	5.6	6.5	6.3	7.0
Kuwait	2.9	5.1	4.2	3.8	3.8	4.6
Oman	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.2	1.0	2.2
South Africa	1.8	1.9	2.3	2.0	1.7	2.4
Singapore	1.6	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.4
Mexico	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.1

3. SHARE OF TOTAL IMPORTS | Overall, 4% of India's imports came from Russia in April and May 2022 (FY23), a significant increase from around 1% in the years before. No other country's share has increased considerably in this period. China's share in India's imports came down

Country	FY 23	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18
China	12%	15%	17%	14%	14%	16%
UAE	8	7	7	6	6	5
U.S.	7	7	7	8	7	6
S. Arabia	6	6	4	6	6	5
Iraq	6	5	4	5	4	4
Russia	**4%**	**2%**	**1%**	**1%**	**1%**	**2%**
Indonesia	4	3	3	3	3	4
Australia	3	3	2	2	3	3
Singapore	3	3	3	3	3	2
S.Korea	3	3	3	3	3	4
Switzerland	3	4	5	4	4	4
Hong Kong	3	3	4	4	3	2
Germany	2	2	3	3	3	3

4. RANKING IN TOTAL IMPORTS | The table lists the ranking of countries based on their share in India's overall imports. Russia was ranked 20th or above in many previous years but jumped to the sixth position in the April-May 2022 (FY23) period

Country	FY 23	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18
China	1	1	1	1	1	1
UAE	2	2	3	3	3	4
U.S.	3	3	2	2	2	2
S. Arabia	4	4	5	4	4	3
Iraq	5	5	7	5	5	6
Russia	**6**	**20**	**21**	**20**	**24**	**15**
Indonesia	7	9	11	9	10	7
Australia	8	11	14	15	12	9
Singapore	9	8	9	10	9	17
S.Korea	10	10	10	8	8	8
Switzerland	11	6	4	7	6	5
Hong Kong	12	7	6	6	7	12
Germany	16	12	8	11	11	10

SOURCE: COMMERCE MINISTRY

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 29, 1972

P.M. and Bhutto hope for new era

Simla, June 28: The opening session of the Indo-Pakistan summit this afternoon lasted less than an hour – only 50 heads of Government and their principal advisers to settle even the bare preliminaries for the main discussions during the next three days of the conference. The Indian and Pakistan delegates indicated in a joint press release late to-night that the officials of the two sides, who have been nominated to commence the discussion on the agenda, met to-day and will meet again to-morrow morning to resume the talks after they have reported back to their respective leaders on the progress of their talks to-day. This statement implied that Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Bhutto will get together only after the officials have completed their preliminary discussions and reached the stage where the two heads of government could usefully take up specific issues for further discussions. The officials who met at 7 p.m. adjourned at 9-45 p.m. to report to their leaders and obtain the necessary instructions before resuming the talk to-morrow at 10 a.m.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 29, 1922

Indian Affairs

London, June 27: In the Commons replying to Col. Wedgwood, Earl Winterton stated that the Indian Government hoped very shortly to communicate the total number of those imprisoned in India for political offences. He considered it most unlikely that the number would exceed four thousand and not 20 thousand as recently suggested. Mr. Davidson in a question drew the attention to the widespread misapprehension among European members and Indian members of the Indian Civil Service with reference to the Indian Civil Service family pension fund. In view of the numerous Indian Civil Servants now coming upon the fund whose conditions of family life are widely different from that of Europeans Mr. Davidson asked whether the Indian Government was prepared to rescind the former decision to extend this benefit to non-Europeans. He also wished to know whether the fund would forthwith be divided into separate European and Indian sections with a separate actuarial calculations. Earl Winterton said he had already considered the effect mentioned on the family pension scheme, but it was not possible to make a statement on the subject at present.

FROM PAGE ONE

BJP seeks floor test, CM makes fresh plea

The group is demanding that the Sena form the government with the BJP.

"You are stuck in Guwahati for the last few days. Many of you are in touch with us and you are still a shivsainik by heart," Mr. Thackeray said, adding that family members of many MLAs had conveyed their feelings to him.

"As a family head, I reiterate that still there's time. You will never get the honour that the Sena bestowed upon you. We can find a way out of it if you come face to face. I still care for you as the Sena family head," he said. Mr. Thackeray had made a similar appeal to the MLAs a day after they left Mumbai.

To counter Mr. Thackeray's statement that many of the MLAs were still in touch with the party, Mr. Shinde challenged him to name them. Throughout the day, the MLAs of the group released videos claiming that they were not in touch with any other leader and would follow Mr. Shinde.

The BJP, which still claims that it has nothing to do with the internal feud, has reportedly called all its MLAs and affiliated Independents to Mumbai on Wednesday. Earlier, Mr. Fadnavis met with Mr. Shah and Mr. Nadda in New Delhi. According to sources in the BJP, Mr. Fadnavis, accompanied by lawyer and MP Mahesh Jethmalani and a couple of leaders first met with Mr. Shah and later called on Mr. Nadda. "Legal and political angles to the crisis in Maharashtra were discussed and the options before the party were gone over with a fine-tooth comb," said a senior leader who did not wish to be named.

The BJP has been claiming that it has the support of 169 MLAs and the majority in the Assembly after a large section of the Shiv Sena's Legislature Party led by Mr. Shinde revolted against the Uddhav government and left for Surat and later to Guwahati. The Supreme Court on Monday kept in abeyance the disqualification proceedings against 16 MLAs of the Shinde camp, pending before the Deputy Speaker.

"The BJP is very clear that no step will be taken unless and until all is clear with regard to the endgames of every scenario," said a senior leader.

(With inputs from Nistula Hebbar)

'Over 150 govt. orders issued by MVA govt.'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Amid the political instability prevailing in Maharashtra, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Pravin Darekar has sought the intervention of Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari regarding the unusually large number of Government Resolutions (GR) and circulars issued by the Maha Vikas Aghadi government.

Mr. Darekar has alleged massive corruption in the manner in which over 150 GRs were issued by the ruling MVA alliance, particularly the NCP, amid the ongoing political crisis triggered by Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde's intra-party rebellion, which has put a question mark on the government's existence. Mr. Koshyari has accordingly asked the State's Chief Secretary to provide complete information on all GRs and circulars issued by the State government from June 22 to 24.

"The political situation in Maharashtra is extremely volatile. What did not happen in the last two-and-a-half years, they are trying to quickly push through at this stage," he said.

ED asks Raut to appear on July 1

The agency wants to question him over irregularities in Patra Chawl project

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday again issued summons to Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut for July 1 after he failed to appear before the agency in a money laundering case of 2018.

The ED rejected Mr. Raut's exemption request and issued him the summons to record his statement. He said he will be in Alibag for meetings and will not be able to appear before the Central agency before July 7 in a case relating to the irregularities in the redevelopment of the Patra Chawl project at Goregaon.

The case dates back to March 2018 when an FIR was registered under provision of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Guruashish Construction Private Ltd. and Housing Development and Infrastructure Limited (HDIL) promoters Rakesh and Sarang Wadhwan on the basis of a complaint filed by an executive engineer of the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA).

They were charged under Sections 409 (criminal breach of trust by public servant, or banker or agent), 420 (cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property), and 120 B (punishment of criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code.

In trouble: The ED has rejected the exemption request of Sanjay Raut and issued him summons. • PTI

According to the ED, Guruashish Construction was entrusted with the development of the Patra Chawl project for rehabilitation of 672 tenants on 47 acres of land. During the relevant time, the Wadhawan brothers and Pravin Raut, a Maharashtra-based businessman, were the directors of Guruashish Construction.

Under the agreement, the developer was to provide flats to the tenants and also develop flats for the MHADA. Thereafter, the remaining area was to be sold by the developer. The Enforcement Directorate contends the directors of Guruashish Constructions misled the MHADA and managed to sell the floor space index to nine developers and collected approximately ₹901.79 crore without constructing the rehabilitation portion for 672 displaced tenants and the MHADA portion.

The company launched a project named "Meadows" and took the booking amount of around ₹138 crore from flat buyers. The total proceeds of the crime by the company through the illegal activities was approximately ₹1,039.79 crore. The money trail investigation conducted so far revealed that around ₹100 crore was transferred from HDIL to the account of Pravin Raut. This amount was then diverted to various accounts of his close associates, family members, and his business entities.

It is also revealed that during 2010, a part of the proceeds of crime, amounting to ₹83 lakh, was received by Varsha Raut, wife of Sanjay Raut, directly or indirectly from Pravin Raut's wife. An amount of ₹55 lakh was utilised to purchase a flat at Dadar.

On April 5, the Enforcement Directorate attached immoveable properties worth over ₹11 crore belonging to the Sena's MP. The assets include eight plots on the Kihim beach at Alibaug jointly held by Ms. Varsha, and Swapna, wife of Sujit Patkar, family friend of the Rauts. Also attached are a flat at Dadar that belongs to Ms. Varsha and some property at Palghar owned by Pravin Raut, currently in jail.

On June 27, the MP tweeted, "I just came to know that the ED has summoned me. Good! There are big political developments in Maharashtra. We, Balasaheb's Shivsainiks, are fighting a big battle. This is a conspiracy to stop me. Even if you behead me, I won't take the Guwahati route. Arrest me! Jai Hind!"

FIRs against Thackerays, Raut sought

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

A PIL petition has been filed in the Bombay High Court on Tuesday seeking registration of an FIR against Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, Cabinet Minister Aaditya Thackeray and Shiv Sena spokesperson Sanjay Raut. The plea sought a direction to restrain all the three from making any statements against the MLAs who are with rebel leader Eknath Shinde in Guwahati.

The plea filed by Pune resident Hemant Patil stated, "The Shiv Sena MLAs, who are rebelling, are camped in Assam because of the threats given by Thackeray senior and junior and Mr. Raut. Mr. Raut has issued a threat to all of the 40 MLAs stating that their bodies will come from Assam and will be sent directly to the morgue for postmortem. In this way, all of them are creating the situation of riot and violence in Maharashtra."

The plea urged the court to direct an FIR against all the three under sedition, despite it being temporarily suspended by the Supreme Court.

Shinde says he has support of 50 MLAs

"No MLA has been pressurised or is being suppressed...everyone here is happy and has joined of his or her own volition. If they [Thackeray camp] claim that the MLAs present here are in contact with them, then they should reveal their names," Mr. Shinde added.

Mr. Samant, in a bid to refute accusations by the Mr. Uddhav's camp that the rebels were "traitors" to the party, stressed that the electorate should not be misled. He hit out at the Sena's ally in the ruling 'Maha Vikas Aghadi' government, the Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), while accusing the latter of being responsible for the defeat of Sena candidate Sanjay Pawar in the Rajya Sabha elections held earlier this month. Sena MLA Suhas Kande said that if one had to take 'Hindutva' forward, then Mr. Shinde's leadership was the only alternative, while another rebel MLA Shahaji Patil said that the Sena was being "decimated" by its current allies, the NCP and the Congress."

The Shinde camp, along with their spokesperson, Sindhudurg MLA Deepak Kesarkar, have especially singled out Sena MP Sanjay Raut for his harsh invective and for being the root cause of the Sena's "downfall". They have accused Mr. Raut of acting like the NCP's agent in keeping the BJP and the Shiv Sena apart.

Army shoots down two in Kupwara

Police arrest two from Rajouri for involvement in blasts in two towns this year

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

The Army on Tuesday shot dead two persons suspected of facilitating arms supply to militants, near the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district of north Kashmir.

The Army said Majid Chechi and Samsudin Beigh had allegedly come to receive a cache of arms and narcotics to facilitate infiltration of terrorists in Rauta Nar.

A police spokesman said suspicious movement was observed close to the fence at the India Gate-Bichu pocket in the Keran sector at quarter past midnight. "On being challenged, fire was drawn on the patrol party of the Army from the fence side, which was retaliated. On search, two individuals were found dead near the fence and were in possession of four AK rifles, eight magazines and two packets of narcotics. Two more AK rifles, along with magazines and four grenades, were found on the other side of the fence," the police said.

The police said an investigation had started.

Three blasts

The Jammu and Kashmir police arrested two persons, exposing a network behind the growing incidents of militancy in the Pir Panjal Valley in Jammu division this year. Muhammad Shabir and Muhammad Sadiq from the Draaj locality of the Budhal area in Rajouri were involved in three blasts in Kotranka town and Shahpur in Rajouri in March and April. Earlier, the police had described these blasts as "mysterious".

"During the investigation, it has come to the fore that the three accused, Talib Shah, Shabir and Sadiq, were involved in these blasts. They were working on the directions of their Pakistan-based handlers and received weapons, ammunition, and explosives. Later, they used these improvised explosive devices to trigger blasts," a police spokesman said. Four persons, including two non-local labourers, were injured in the blasts.

Under operation: The police have recovered IEDs, remote controls and fuses from the duo. • NISSAR AHMAD

The police said the group was headed by Shah, "who has collected three consignments of arms, ammunition, explosives from Lamberi-Kalakote area in the months of January, March and April this year".

"Shah, who is the commander of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), is still absconding. He is the mastermind of all terrorist activities in the Pir Panjal valley. He motivated many youth to carry out terror activities in Rajouri," the police said.

According to the police investigation, Shah has been "instrumental in almost all the terror incidents in the Pir Panjal Valley, comprising the districts of Rajouri and Poonch, in the last three years."

"This group was also sheltering a few Kashmir-based active terrorists of the LeT in general area Kandi-Budhal and were making efforts to revive militancy in the Pir Panjal valley," the police said. The police have recovered five IEDs, five remote controls, and fuses from the arrested persons.

The Jammu division had zero instances of militant attacks, except for infiltrations, prior to August 5, 2019, when the Centre ended Jammu and Kashmir's special constitutional position.

The Jammu division was rocked by several blasts this year, including the Udhampur market blast that left one person dead and 13 injured in March and the Katra blast on a bus carrying pilgrimage in May, in which four pilgrims died. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) had found traces of explosives at the Katra blast site.

Official sources said the incident could be the first major attack carried out by militants using a sticky or magnetic bomb in Jammu and Kashmir.

Rescue operation on in the Arabian Sea on Tuesday. • PTI

4 killed as chopper falls into sea off Mumbai

Helicopter crashed near Sagar Kiran

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Four persons, three of them ONGC employees, were killed when a helicopter with nine persons on board crashed into the Arabian Sea, about 50 nautical miles from the Mumbai coast, on Tuesday.

The helicopter, which was part of the six Sikorsky S-76D helicopters that Pawan Hans recently leased from Milestone Aviation Group, was about five minutes from its destination – the ONGC's Sagar Kiran rig – when it went down, company officials said.

The helicopter crashed around 11.45 a.m., just 1 nautical mile from Sagar Kiran, but managed to stay afloat with the help of the attached floaters, helping rescuers pull out all the nine, including two pilots.

Four persons were unconscious and flown on a Navy chopper to a hospital in Mumbai, where they were declared dead. Three of the deceased are employees of the ONGC, which had hired the helicopter service from Pawan Hans. The fourth person belongs to a contractor.

Officials said the ONGC had already instituted an inquiry into the incident. The DGCA is also likely to order a separate inquiry.

Zubair's police custody extended by four days

ABHINAY LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI

A city court on Tuesday granted the Delhi Police four more days of custody of Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair, a day after he was arrested for his "objectionable tweet" in 2018.

Chief metropolitan magistrate Snigdha Sarvaria of the Patiala House Court also allowed the police to take him to Bengaluru to recover his phone and laptop from his residence.

The order came after advocate Vrinda Grover opposed the remand application by the police, arguing for over an hour on alleged violation of arrest procedures, the lack of ingredients required for the offences in the first information report, and how Mr. Zubair was being targeted for his work and because of his faith.

Moving an application seeking Mr. Zubair's custody for five more days, the substitute Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that the accused had "deliberately" hurt the religious sentiment of one community through the tweet in question, in which they alleged that he had "edited the photograph to change the name of a hotel from Honeymoon Hotel to Hanuman Hotel".

Ms. Grover submitted that the photograph in question was a still from the 1983 Hindi film *Kissi Se Na Kehna* and had not been tampered with in any way, proceeding to seek the court's permission to play the relevant scene from the movie, which the court declined.

In her order, the judge said, "The submissions with respect to the photograph being a part of a movie are also of no assistance to the accused at this stage".

The court also dismissed the precedent cited by Mr. Zubair's counsel to contest the charge under Section 295A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), saying they "are also not of any assistance to the accused".

Ms. Grover had come around to arguing on the charge under Section 295A of the IPC, while she was arguing as to how the ingredients for the charge under Section 295 of the IPC were not made out. The police had initially registered the FIR under Sections 153A and 295 of the IPC. While challenging the latter charge, Ms. Grover pointed out that this section was for "injuring or defiling a place of worship with intent to insult the religion of any class" and asked how the tweet in question satisfied any of these ingredients. It was at this point that the prosecution said they had now dropped Section 295 from the FIR and had added Section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) instead. In addition, the prosecution argued for continued custody of Mr. Zubair citing that he had allegedly "wiped his phone and brought a blank phone" to the interrogation.

'PSUs are vehicle of social empowerment'

Congress questions privatisation Bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

If the Union government completely exits public sector banks after they are privatised, it will have "dangerous repercussions for the Indian economy", the Congress said on Tuesday. The principal Opposition party was reacting to reports that the Narendra Modi government could introduce a Bill in the upcoming monsoon session of Parliament to facilitate privatisation of public sector banks with an exit clause for the Central government.

There has, however, been no formal statement by the government in this regard.

"The Modi government's reckless privatisation and its plans to put India on sale now poses huge risks to the Indian economy and our people. The Modi government is now all set to completely exit public sector banks [that are] being privatised – an ill thought out strategy with dangerous repercussions," Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate.

Ms. Shrinate said there was a reason why banks were nationalised in 1969 – public sector banks catered to the banking needs of those sections of society that are never a priority for any private institution.

"These [PSU banks] are not just financial institutions; these are vehicles of social empowerment," she said. Ms. Shrinate questioned the timing of the LIC IPO and said the BJP should now be re-designated as the '*Beche jao*' (keep on selling) party.

She claimed that in the past two months, the government had been forced to put on hold its privatisation plans of four PSUs – Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Container Corporation of India, Central Electronics Limited, and Pawan Hans limited – because of poor valuation.

NHRC's advisory to Centre, States on truck drivers' rights

Provide accident cover of ₹15 lakh each for entire staff

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission on Tuesday said it had issued an advisory to the Centre, States and Union Territories to protect the rights of truck drivers. "The Commission has observed that despite making significant contribution to the economy of the nation, the rightful entitlements of the truck drivers do not get adequate attention, as the truck business remains fragmented and unorganised," the statement read.

The advisory, sent by the NHRC Secretary-General to the Secretaries of Ministries and departments and Chief Secretaries of States, covered four areas – protection from exploitation, provision of amenities, provision of socio-economic security and physical and mental well-being. Among the recommendations was an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988, to make the purchase of personal accident cover of at least ₹15 lakh each for the driver, co-driver and helper of a commercial truck mandatory. It recommended that drivers, co-drivers and helpers who are injured or incapacitated in road accidents should be given cashless medical treatment. The advisory said rest stops and lay-byes with parking areas, rest rooms, toilets, restaurants with reasonable rates, mechanic shops and doctors' clinics should be constructed every 40 km on National Highways and at prominent locations along State highways.

For better life: The advisory sought restrooms and hotels at every 40 km on National and State highways. • PTI

"Launch a group insurance scheme providing for life as well as health cover for truck drivers on payment of a nominal subsidised subscription; Minimise physical interface between truck drivers and law enforcement agencies by providing online facilities..." it said.

PM hails UAE's help during the pandemic

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday expressed gratitude to President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al Nahyan "for taking great care of 3.5 million Indian community in the UAE" during the pandemic. Mr. Modi met with the Gulf country's ruler during a stopover at Abu Dhabi while returning from Munich, where he had participated in special sessions of the G7 summit.

This was the first meeting between Mr. Modi and the UAE ruler since the Gulf country joined others in the region to condemn the derogatory comments made by now-sacked two BJP functionaries on the Prophet. "Both leaders reviewed various aspects of India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership which they have carefully nurtured over the past few years," said the Ministry of External Affairs.

Two behead man for social media posts

Killers post video of murder inside a shop in Udaipur; victim had shared posts backing Nupur Sharma

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Restoring calm: Police personnel deployed after the murder of Kanhaiya Lal in Udaipur on Tuesday. Investigation into the matter would be carried out under the case officer scheme. • PTI

Two persons beheaded a 40-year-old man in broad daylight inside his tailoring shop in a market in Udaipur city of Rajasthan on Tuesday and posted the video of the murder on social media.

The victim, Kanhaiya Lal, had shared posts in support of suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma, who had made offensive remarks against the Prophet in a television debate last month.

Tensions prevailed in Udaipur, where markets were ordered closed and mobile Internet services suspended to check the spread of rumours. Curfew was imposed in seven police station areas of the city late in the evening as a preventive measure.

The murderers filmed the incident and posted the video on social media. They later released another video, showing two daggers used for beheading, and took responsibility for the crime and threatened Prime Minister Narendra Modi with "dire consequences". They were arrested from the neighbouring Rajsamand district late in the evening.

Lead-up to murder

Kanhaiya Lal, who was earlier booked in connection with his post and questioned by the city police, had closed his shop in the Maldas Street area for a week and told the police that he feared for his life. He started coming to his shop only from Monday. Traders in the area kept his body outside the shop and demanded the immediate arrest of the killers.

Additional Director-General of Police (Law & Order) Hawa Singh Ghumaria said a general alert had been issued across the State and additional police force rushed to Udaipur. He said preliminary investigation indicated that it was a "premeditated murder".

Udaipur Collector Tara Chand Meena reached the spot of the crime, and assured the protesters that financial assistance would be given to the next of kin of the victim as per the State government's norms.

Two senior police officers were scheduled to arrive in the city late in the night to assess the situation.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot told presspersons in Jodhpur that the way the murder had been committed was "beyond imagination".

He promised strict action against the criminals involved, and appealed to the people to maintain peace and not share videos the accused had circulated.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi expressed his deep shock and said in a Twitter post that brutality in the name of religion could not be tolerated.

The Opposition BJP strongly criticised the Congress government. BJP State president Satish Poonia said the State government was following a "policy of appeasement".

Opposition parties throw their weight behind Zubair

They call out the government's 'hypocrisy' in arresting him

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Mohammed Zubair

Opposition parties reacted sharply to the arrest of Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair, calling out the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre for its hypocrisy since the arrest came on a day Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed the "2022 Resilient Democracies Statement" at the G7 summit, committing to "protect freedom of expression and opinion online and offline".

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said that Mr. Zubair had been arrested for exposing the BJP's hate, bigotry and lies. Mr. Gandhi tweeted: "Arresting one voice of truth will only give rise to a thousand more. The truth ALWAYS triumphs over tyranny." At a press conference on Tuesday, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said that while perpetrators of hate were receiving political patronage, those who reported such hate were being jailed.

Going a step further, All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president Asaduddin Owaisi said that there was a threat to Mr. Zubair's life since the Delhi Police was not following established procedures.

'Police's double stand'

Mr. Owaisi tweeted: "He's been arrested with no notice & in some unknown FIR. Total violation of due process. @DelhiPolice does nothing about anti-Muslim genocidal slogans but acts swiftly against 'crime' of reporting hate speech and countering misinformation."

Opposition leaders have also called for Mr. Zubair's immediate release.

Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said that the arrest clearly showed the Modi government is "insecure and threatened by anyone who exposes its hate machine of misinformation". Communist Party of India (CPI) general secretary D. Raja said that the arrest exposed the duplicity of the government that extends patronage to hate-mongers even if their comments caused global outrage. He added, "Young journalists like Mohammed Zubair, who are working to protect the scientific temper of the country, are behind bars. Condemnable!"

RJD slams Modi

The timing of the arrest, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Manoj K. Jha said, is ironic. "The great LEADER invokes #Emergency in the land of #ThirdReich & allows dissent in any form to be killed at home," he tweeted.

The Trinamool Congress issued an official statement condemning the arrest. In a strongly-worded tweet from the party's official handle, the TMC said, "It is much easier to cry foul when someone not from your own party is allegedly hurting religious sentiments. Arrest @NupurSharmaBJP, and show the country that the same rules apply to all. The rule of law is not for you to tamper with @BJP4India!"

BJP slams protests against arrests

'Opposition parties backing Zubair, Setalvad point to a poisonous ecosystem'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Unwavering support: CPI supporters protesting against the arrest of Teesta Setalvad, in Hyderabad on Tuesday. • AP

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday slammed Opposition parties for protesting against the arrest of activist Teesta Setalvad, and co-founder of the fact-checking portal Alt News, Mohammed Zubair, alleging that they were working as part of a "poisonous ecosystem" where one offender protects another if anyone is caught.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP's national headquarters in New Delhi, party spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia accused Opposition parties of supporting and opposing judicial actions as per their convenience, and asked whether they had any faith in the judiciary or not.

He characterised the Gujarat Police's action against Ms. Setalvad following the Supreme Court's strong denunciation of her and others for "keeping the pot boiling" and levelling false charges, including against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, over the 2002 riots in the State. "[Teesta] Setalvad was a small branch for fanning communal hate. Its headquarter was in the Congress and its president Sonia Gandhi was the chief executive officer," he told a press conference.

'Chequered past'

To questions over Mr. Zubair's arrest and the Opposition leaders' protest against it, he said one cannot become a fact-checker only by proclaiming himself to be one. Mr. Zubair had a chequered past and had posted tweets that had hurt the religious feelings of a large section of Hindu society, Mr. Bhatia said.

Gauging objectivity

All major Opposition parties and media organisations condemned Mr. Zubair's arrest on Monday by the Delhi Police for allegedly hurting religious sentiments with one of his tweets. Criticising Mr. Zubair, Mr. Bhatia said that if somebody was fact-checking, then he could not be selective. If he posted content that suited some political party or a community, then he was not objective, Mr. Bhatia claimed.

"If protest against Zubair's arrest is linked with similar criticism of action against Setalvad, then it is clear that there is a poisonous ecosystem," he said.

Amnesty condemns scribe's arrest

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Amnesty International India on Tuesday said the arrest of Mohammed Zubair, co-founder of the fact-checking website ALT News, by the Delhi Police was a violation of the right to freedom of expression and an abuse of power by the authorities.

Amnesty India chair Aakar Patel said Mr. Zubair's arrest showed that the dangers facing human rights defenders had reached a crisis level. Harassment and arbitrary arrests of human rights defenders had become commonplace.

Journalist bodies call for Alt News co-founder's immediate release

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Condemning the arrest of Mohammed Zubair, co-founder of the fact-checking website Alt News, journalist bodies have demanded his immediate release.

The Editors Guild of India (EGI), in a statement, said his website Alt News had done some exemplary work over the past few years in identifying fake news and countering disinformation campaigns. "In fact it was an exposure of toxic remarks of a ruling party spokesperson on a TV channel that allowed the party to make amends," it said.

The Press Club of India (PCI) management said: "It is ironic that Mohammad Zubair's arrest came on a day when India joined G7 and four other countries to protect free speech 'online and offline'. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the meet where the signatories also committed to 'protect freedom of thought'," it said.

EC to continue hearing Soren case on July 14

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Tuesday held a hearing in the office-of-profit case against Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and decided to continue hearing the matter on July 14, according to the EC officials.

The commission heard the arguments of the BJP's lawyer and began hearing Mr. Soren's lawyer around 5 p.m., after which the hearing was adjourned.

The BJP and former Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das had alleged that Mr. Soren misused his office by allocating a stone quarrying lease on government land to himself while he was the Minister in charge of mines in 2021.

Motion against Agnipath in Punjab House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday said that the State government will soon bring a resolution in the Assembly to oppose the Centre's Agnipath scheme for defence forces.

"Agnipath is a whimsical and irrational move of the NDA government which will destroy the basic fabric of the Indian Army," he said, while replying to the issue raised by the Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa during 'zero hour' in the Assembly during the ongoing session.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU
Neelakudi Campus, Thiruvarur – 610 005,
Dr. Ambedkar Centre Of Excellence (DACE)
Employment Notice No. DACE/01/2022
Central University of Tamil Nadu invites online applications for the contract faculty positions at Dr. Ambedkar Centre of Excellence to coach the SC Students for civil services examinations conducted by the UPSC. The Interested candidates may apply online on or before 07-07-2022. For more details visit **www.cutn.ac.in/dace/**
Registrar i/c.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU
Neelakudi Campus, Thiruvarur – 610 005,
Dr. Ambedkar Centre Of Excellence (DACE)
Admission Notification-2023
Dr. Ambedkar Centre of Excellence constituted at Central University of Tamil Nadu is announcing the admission for (Prelims and Mains) Civil Services Examination coaching for the year 2023 for the Schedule Caste candidates. The interested candidates can apply online through the university portal www.cutn.ac.in/dace/ The Online application link is available on university portal. Last date for applying online is 07-07-2022.
Registrar i/c.

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (ज़िला), आं.प्र./ SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE तिथि/ Date. 27.06.2022
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से "आगंतुक परिसर सबस्टेशन के लिए विद्युत कार्य" (शार/सीएमडी/ई/सी2287203/2022-23, अनुमानित लागत ₹216.92 लाख) निविदा दस्तावेज 13.07.2022 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं, और "एसएमपीसी यूनिट के पास 11kV रिंग मेन यूनिट का एस आई टी सी" (पीटी-ई -22-011, अनुमानित लागत ₹13.81 लाख); "AKAM कार्यक्रम के भाग के रूप में आधिकारिक भवनों की रोशनी।" (पीटी-ई-22-012, अनुमानित लागत ₹7.39 लाख); हेतु मद–दर ई–निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा दस्तावेज 09.07.2022 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।
"On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Electrical works for Visitors Complex substation"** (SHAR/CMD/E/C2287203/2022-23, Est. cost: ₹216.92 Lakhs), tender documents can be downloaded upto **13.07.2022, 14:30hrs** and for **"SITC of 11kV Ring main unit near SMPC unit"** (PT-E-22-011, Est. cost: ₹13.81 Lakhs); **"Illumination of official buildings as part of AKAM program"** (PT-E-22-012, Est. cost: ₹7.39 Lakhs), tender documents can be downloaded upto **09.07.2022,14:30hrs.** Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.
हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, FAX No. 0471-2945647),
E-mail : edrugs@kmscl.kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/ED/394/2022 Date : 28.06.2022
RE-TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of following categories of drugs / supplies for the year 2022-23.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/ED/I&II/RT/2022/007 dtd. 28.06.2022	Drugs	74
2.	KMSCL/ED/III-VIII/RT/2022/008 dtd. 28.06.2022	Consumables & Surgical items	32
3.	KMSCL/ED/SPL/RT/2022/009 dtd. 28.06.2022	Specialty Drugs	107

Schedule of dates

	Date	Time
Last date of online uploading of tenders	11.07.2022	Up to 05.00 pm.
Date of technical bid opening	15.07.2022	11.00 am. onwards

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.
(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)
(Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No : 35/2012)
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India
Sriperumbudur-602 105, Tamil Nadu
Applications are invited for the Post of Director
RGNIYD is a national training institute established in the year 1993 and given a status of Institute of National Importance by the Act of Parliament 35/2012 devoted to teaching, research, extension activities, policy development and co-ordination at National and International levels on matters of youth development and youth affairs. It is financed by the Government of India through the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. It is located in a sprawling green campus of 42 acres, (on the National Highway NH4) an hour's drive from Chennai Airport.
RGNIYD is looking for a Director, preferably below 65 years of age at the time applying, who is the principal academic and executive head of the institution responsible for shaping the academic performance and proper administration of the Institute befitting its status of an "Institution of National Importance", a distinction conferred on it by the Act of Parliament. The candidate should have outstanding academic qualifications as essential and an eminent educationist / administrator / technologist. Proven experience in youth development or research on youth affairs will be considered a desirable qualification. The candidate, be a scholar of eminence with experience in educational administration as a Vice Chancellor, Director or Principal of an institute of higher education. The post carries UGC scale wherein the basic pay of Rs. 75,000/- (fixed) + Special Allowance of Rs.5,000/- per month (pre-revised) plus other allowances as applicable, other perks including accommodation, transport etc.
Application with supporting documents should be sent to "The Under Secretary (RGNIYD), Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Room No. 518, 5th Floor, C-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001 superscribing **"Application for the post of Director, RGNIYD Sriperumbudur"** together with two references (to whom reference may be made) so as to reach on or before **30.07.2022**.
Shortlisted candidates will be called for consultations with the Search Committee constituted for the purpose. The committee may invite eligible candidates from outside the applicants as well. For more details about RGNIYD please visit **www.rgniyd.gov.in**.
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar

Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner
F. ( )RAJUVAS/Reg./R&P/ 2022/52 Dated: 23-6-2022
Recruitment Advertisement No. RAJUVAS/02-2022
Online Applications are invited for recruitment of **Assistant Professors, Assistant Librarian, Assistant Director Research and Assistant Director Extension** in various constituent units of this University. For detailed information along with general terms and conditions, essential qualifications, online application form etc., please visit University website www.rajuvas.org. Facility for filling up of online application form shall start from **10:00 AM of 28-06-2022** and the last date and time for submission of online applications is up to **5.00 PM on 18-07-2022.**
Raj.Samwad/C/22/4088
Registrar
RAJUVAS, Bikaner

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
COMMISSIONERATE FOR WELFARE OF THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED
5, LADY WILLINGDON COLLEGE CAMPUS, KAMARAGER SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 005
TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE
Roc.No.2355 / A&A / 2022 Dated: 28.06.2022
The Tender called for the supply of the Retrofitted petrol scooters and specially designed Retrofitted petrol scooters for the Spinal cord injured persons, for the financial year 2022-2023, which were issued on 6.5.2022 (Roc.No.2355/A & A / 2022 dated: 4.5.2022) and subsequently extended till 30.06.2022 has been cancelled due to administrative reasons.
Commissioner for Welfare of the Differently Abled
DIPR/3081/Tender/2022

Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru
Name and Address of the entity seeking Expression of Interest (EOI):
BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED
Bravo-1, Administration Block, Kempegowda International Airport, BANGALORE 560 300
www.bengaluruairport.com
NOTICE TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

S. No.	Tender Title	Short description of Scope of Work
1	SITC of BHS Software upgradation Works	SITC of BHS software upgradation Worksfor Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru.

Pre Qualification Criteria & other Inforamtion: Available on BIAL website (**http://www.bengaluruairport.com/ourBusiness/tender.jspx**)
Submission Due Date & Time for all the above: 30th June 2022&17.00 Hours.
Note: Any Further Addendums to this EOI shall be made available in BIAL website.
Applicants who are interested shall express their interest through **E-Mail:ganesan@bialairport.com** and upload the relevant documents in the BIAL Tenders website (**https://www.bialtenders.com**) writing to Head – Procurement & Contracts

Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru
Name and Address of the entity seeking Expression of Interest (EOI):
BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED
Administration Block, Bravo-1, Kempegowda International Airport, BANGALORE 560 300
www.bengaluruairport.com
NOTICE TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

S. No.	Tender Title	Short description of Scope of Work
1	Biometric Enablement of Passenger Onboarding Journey at BIAL Terminal 2	The scope of work to be undertaken by the selected contractor in brief shall involve works such as development and implementation of biometric based digital processing system for passengers, known as 'Digi Yatra', at Kempegowda International Airport Terminal 2 (T2).System envisages a connected ecosystem enhancing the seamless travel experience for the passengers and simultaneously improving the security by enabling for existing Electronic Gates System eGates, Self-Bag Drop (SBD) system, Common Use Self-Service system (CUSS), Common Use Terminal Equipment (CUTE), including the integration with airport ICT systems which are in turn integrated with DigiYatra Central Ecosystem.

Pre Qualification Criteria & other Information: Available on BIAL website (**http://www.bengaluruairport.com/ourBusiness/tender.jspx**)
Submission Due Date & Time for all the above: 8th July 2022 &16.00 Hours IST.
Note: Any Further Addendums to this EOI shall be made available in BIAL website.
Applicants who are interested shall express their interest through E-Mail:**sunil.s@bialairport.com** and upload the relevant documents in the BIAL Tenders website (**https://www.bialtenders.com**) writing to Head – Procurement & Contracts.

19 killed in Mumbai building collapse

Civic body had been issuing notices from 2013, initially for repairs and then for demolition

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Nineteen people were declared brought dead at hospitals after a four-storey building collapsed in the Kurla area of Mumbai around Monday midnight, civic officials said on Tuesday. Four have been admitted to hospitals and nine were discharged after treatment, officials said.

A wing of the building in the Naik Nagar Society collapsed, while another wing was evacuated as it too is dilapidated, officials of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said. Search-and-rescue operations are under way.

A woman who was trapped under the debris was rescued by a team of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). Rescuers cheered when she was brought out alive.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday announced an ex gratia of ₹5 lakh each from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to the next of kin of the deceased. The medical expenses of the injured will be borne by the State government, the statement added.

Fatal fall: Rescue operations under way after a four-storey building collapsed at Naik Nagar in Mumbai late on Monday. •EMMANUAL YOGINI

The BMC had issued notices to the building repeatedly since 2013 under the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, initially for repairs and then for vacating and demolishing it, Additional Municipal Commissioner Ashwini Bhide told the PTI.

According to senior BMC officials, residents of the building, constructed in 1973, had undertaken to carry out repairs, but apparently no repairs were carried out.

"Even prosecution for non-compliance was initiated. Later, the residents got a structural audit redone and got the building categorised as repairable, but didn't carry out the repairs," Ms. Bhide, who visited the spot on Tuesday and reviewed the search-and-rescue operations, said. Despite the BMC's warnings and attempts to get the building vacated, people continued to live in it, she claimed. The residents had even given an undertaking that they would continue to live there at their own risk and cost, Ms. Bhide said.

When a BMC fire brigade team first reached the spot, people informed the fire services personnel that 20 to 22 people were trapped under the debris. Around a dozen fire engines were deployed besides two rescue vans and other equipment, the official said.

Besides the fire brigade and two NDRF teams, BMC officials and police were also involved in the operation. NDRF teams rescued two pigeons alive from under the debris nearly 18 hours after the incident.

Maharashtra Environment and Tourism Minister Aaditya Thackeray also visited the spot.

Third incident

This is the third major building collapse this month. On June 23, a slab of a two-storey industrial structure collapsed in the Chembur area, killing a man and injuring 10 others. On June 9, a three-storey residential building collapsed in suburban Bandra, where a 55-year-old man was killed and 18 others suffered injuries.

Step up vigil to contain COVID surge, says Centre

States have been advised to monitor profile of patients

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Tuesday wrote to the States cautioning against symptomatic and unvaccinated individuals travelling and participating in upcoming festive gatherings and yatras. If adequate care is not taken, the country will see yet another COVID-19 surge after the current slump, it said.

Rather than random or anecdotal reporting, the government advised the States to monitor the epidemiological profile of admitted patients and report the clinical manifestation to the Health Ministry.

"This will help to identify at an early stage any out-of-the-ordinary or different clinical presentation of the patients," Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said, asking the States to maintain a constant vigil in pockets showing surge during the past few weeks.

The States were also advised to scan for and report all influenza-like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) cases from all district hospitals, major private hospitals and medical colleges across the districts, and keep a close watch on those geographies where these clusters are emerging.

Mr. Bhushan chaired a review meeting of the COVID situation in the country through a video conference, where 14 States that are reporting a large number of cases on a week-to-week basis, along with increased case positivity, combined with low numbers of COVID tests and below average COVID vaccination, participated. At the meeting, the States were advised to focus on implementation of COVID-appropriate behaviour to control the spread of infection, especially in view of the upcoming festivals in many States.

The Health Ministry said the uptake in second and precaution doses in many States reporting the present surge was low.

mRNA jab, Covovax for 7-11 age group get nod

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) on Tuesday approved India's first indigenously developed mRNA vaccine against COVID-19 manufactured by Gennova Biopharmaceuticals for restricted emergency use for those aged 18 and above, official sources said here on Tuesday.

The DCGI has also approved Serum Institute's vaccine Covovax for restricted emergency use in children aged 7 to 11, subject to certain conditions.

Coast Guard squadron in Porbandar

The Porbandar-based squadron will have Advanced Light Helicopter-Mk-IIIs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Coast Guard on Tuesday commissioned the 835 Squadron (CG) of indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter-Mk-IIIs at the air enclave in Porbandar.

"So far, 13 ALH Mk-III helicopters have been inducted in a phased manner and four of these are positioned at Porbandar. Since the induction, the squadron has flown over 1,200 hours and conducted numerous operational missions, including the maiden night SAR mission off Diu coast," the Coast Guard said in a statement.

The ALH helicopters have been indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL). They feature state-of-the-art equipment, including advanced radar and electro-optical sensors, the Shakti engine, a full glass cockpit, a high-intensity searchlight, advanced communication systems, an automatic identification system and search and rescue (SAR) homer, the Coast Guard said.

The newly commissioned Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III squadron at the ICG Air Enclave in Porbandar. •PTI

"The features enable them to undertake maritime reconnaissance as well as carry out SAR at extended ranges even while operating from ships during both day and night," the Coast Guard said.

The aircraft has the ability to switch roles from an offensive platform with heavy machine gun to that of a benign one carrying a medical intensive care unit to facilitate transfer of critically ill patients, it stated.

The 835 Sqn (CG) is commanded by Commandant Sunil Dutt.

Stealth frigate

In a separate development, the keel of the last of Project-17A stealth frigates for the Navy was laid at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL), Mumbai.

The keel for the seventh stealth frigate was ceremoniously laid by Rear Admiral G.K. Harish, Director-General, Naval Design (Surface Ship Group) at MDL. The ceremony was performed in the presence of senior officials of the Indian Navy and MDL. Keel Laying is a major milestone activity in the construction of ships, symbolising formal commencement of the erection process of warships on the building berth.

Delhi airport resumes trial of full-body security scanners

Airports have missed March 2022 deadline to deploy them

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

The Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport here has once again started trial of full-body scanners, after airports across the country missed the March 2022 deadline for deploying them.

Full-body scanners can detect non-metal objects, which are hard to detect with the conventional door-frame metal detector.

Delhi International Airport Ltd, which runs the airport, said on Tuesday that it had installed a full-body scanner at the security check area at terminal 2, and the trials would be conducted on a real-time basis – passengers would have to pass through it during security check before moving to the security hold area.

In April 2019, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) made it mandatory for 84 airports – 26 hypersensitive and 58 sensitive airports – to deploy body scanners within a year. This deadline was later extended to March 2022 in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak and because airports were reluctant to pay for a costly technology. The remaining airports in the country have time till December 2022 to implement the technology.

A file photo of the Indira Gandhi International Airport.

It is learnt that while airports have sought another extension, the BCAS has put its foot down. "We have already given airports two years. Our deadline was flouted on the ground that it was a costly technology, and then there was COVID-19. We have now told airports that they have to implement our directive," Joint Director General of BCAS Jaideep Prasad told *The Hindu*.

In 2016 and 2017, several rounds of trials were conducted at the Delhi airport for the BCAS, following which the aviation security regulator recommended millimetre-wave technologies instead of back-scatter and full transmission X-ray technologies. This was after consulting the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), which had expressed concern about frequent exposure of passengers to X-ray radiation. This technology also addresses privacy concerns raised by passengers during trials, as it produces a silhouette or a mannequin-like image instead of a naked image.

There are several reasons airports have delayed buying body scanners. "The technical specifications required by the BCAS expect the scanners to detect any restricted article, but trials of German company Rohde and Schwarz, as well as L3 Harris Technologies (whose biometric security detection and automation portfolio has now been bought over by Leidos) have failed to meet these requirements," explained one airport official. The Delhi airport is using Leidos body scanners.

The person added that airports were also worried about the impact on passenger throughput, or passenger flow, and the unlikely impact of this costly technology (each scanner costs ₹4 crore-₹5 crore) in reducing deployment of manpower. "Passengers will be required to divest themselves of many items before passing through the body scanners, which will consume time," the official said.

Court to hear psychiatrists in Nirav case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON

The High Court in London will hear evidence from two psychiatrists on their differing views over the level of suicide risk posed by fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi if he were to be extradited to India, a two-judge panel ruled on Tuesday at a continuation appeal hearing.

Lord Justice Jeremy Stuart-Smith and Justice Robert Jay concluded that three days, expected in October, will be set aside for a substantial hearing to address a change in the "evidential landscape" in the extradition case involving the 51-year-old diamond merchant.

He is wanted in India to face charges of fraud and money laundering amounting to an estimated $2 billion in the Punjab National Bank loan scam case and had lodged an appeal last year against a lower court's extradition order on mental health grounds.

"If even a significant proportion of this evidence is admissible, the evidential landscape has changed substantially since the District Judge's decision," said Lord Justice Stuart-Smith,.

The court noted a "difference of opinion" between two psychiatrists who gave their expert opinion.

Bail plea in Bhima Koregaon case rejected

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

A special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court on Tuesday rejected the default bail plea of five accused in the Bhima Koregaon caste violence case.

Special NIA judge Rajesh Katariya rejected the pleas of former Professor of Nagpur university Shoma Sen, advocate Surendra Gadling, activist Sudhir Dhawale, Rona Wilson and Mahesh Raut. All of them were arrested on June 6, 2018 from different locations.

The grounds for filing the bail petition was that the 90-day extension that was granted to the prosecuting agency for filing the chargesheet was illegal.

On January 1, 1818, a battle was fought between the British Army and the Peshwas and they were forcibly removed. To honour their gallantry, a monument was built called the 'Vijay Stambh'. On January 1, 1927, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar visited the site and started an annual tradition to celebrate the occasion. On December 31, 2017, a public meeting was organised called the 'Elgar Parishad' and the next day a large number of Dalits and Bahujans gathered and were attacked by a mob which resulted in the death of a Maratha youth.

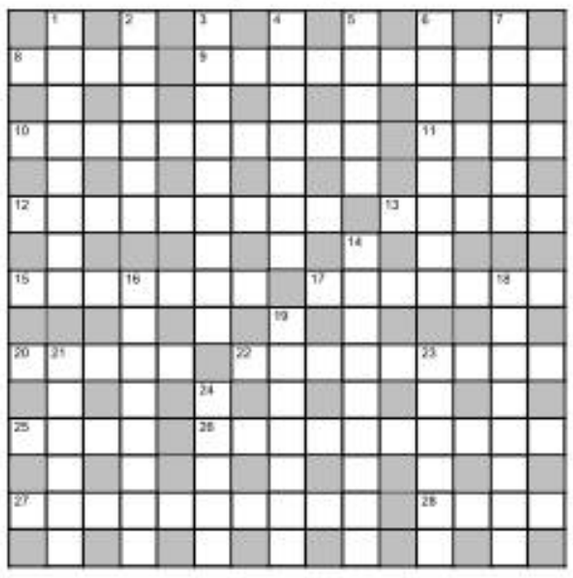
On January 2, 2018, Anita Sawale filed an FIR against Hindutva leaders Milind Ekbote and Sambhaji Bhide and subsequently 22 FIRs were registered in the case. Most of them are under investigation.

TH CROSSWORD + 13595

(set by WrdPlougher)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

8 Count's rank – Earl without a least bit of nobility (4)
9 For instance, mainly depicting one confused immature fool like Narcissus (10)
10 Made soft by strange desire to follow nurse (10)
11 Coloured in – an odd fashion tip (4)
12 Cable bearing message centrally placed in winding rows of letterboxes? (9)
13 One sacrificing intelligence ultimately to celebrate ignorance? (5)
15 Liked to argue about Sartre's case (7)
17 Caught error, abruptly rejected desolate complainant's right (7)
20 Group of poor travellers returning in stealth (5)
22 Bristly plant natural around western tip of Chadian wasteland (9)
25 Final piece of music drama retracting epilogue (4)
26 Intrigues curious user, coming first (10)
27 Scaled reef, fighting fear (4,6)
28 View tweet (4)

Down

1 Going upstairs as umpire makes mistake – short ball, no edges (8)
2 Sound (only OM) often echoing in ancient Turkish gated colony? (6)
3 Plant that's precious yet unwanted? (9)
4 Monk's hairstyle in fashion – really? (7)
5 Poor Andy regularly taking drug, out of work (5)
6 Disciplinarian ticks off student, hauled up again (8)
7 Third variable raises complications (3-3)
14 Mark irrelevant data entries initially in row of columns (9)
16 The explorer, perhaps overwhelmed by island, returning to darling (8)
18 Scolded harshly, felt concerned about temper (8)
19 Rave about Jeeves in the end, after tense Wooster finally gets to Aunt Dahlia's husband (7)
21 A jaunty-sounding piano? (6)
23 Banks starting to cope with recession cycles (6)
24 First name of this swimming pool game? (5)

SUDOKU

3			7	1			9	
				5				6
9	1				3		7	
					4			2
	4						8	
5			1					
	2		9				5	1
6				7				
	8			6	2			7

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13594

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	9	5	7	3	4	8	2
3	2	5	9	8	4	7	6	1
7	8	4	1	2	6	9	3	5
2	5	7	6	9	8	1	4	3
1	9	3	4	5	7	8	2	6
4	6	8	2	3	1	5	7	9
8	3	1	7	6	5	2	9	4
9	4	6	8	1	2	3	5	7
5	7	2	3	4	9	6	1	8

FAITH

Destiny prevails

Yudhishthira performs the Rajasuya yaga, but is worried because Narada had warned of threats to his kingdom. Yudhishthira then consults Vyasa, said Kidambi Narayanan in a discourse. Vyasa says that Yudhishthira and his family will face dangers for thirteen years. Duryodhana's sin will result in the deaths of thousands of Kshatriyas. A mistake of Yudhishthira's would lead Duryodhana to do terrible things.

He says that Yudhishthira will have a dream, in which he will see Lord Siva proceeding towards the abode of Yama. When that dream occurs repeatedly, it is the indication that Yudhishthira's troubles are about to start. But Vyasa tells Yudhishthira that he should not worry, because worrying will change nothing.

Yudhishthira cannot digest the thought that he will cause many deaths. He tells his brothers that it is better if he dies. His brothers pacify him. He then says that for the next thirteen years, he will not utter even one harsh word to anyone. He will behave in such a way that no one will be unhappy with him. He will be impartial to all. And yet, despite all these resolutions of Yudhishthira, the Kurukshetra war does break out and results in the deaths of thousands of warriors.

Nothing can change Destiny. There is a Tukaram abhang, which describes how helpless we are. A twig falls into the water in a canal. Can the twig decide in which direction it wants to go? Even the water in the canal is helpless. It may be happy to be moving straight ahead, but at some point the canal may take a bend to the right, in which case the water has to flow towards the right.

Can a worker change a plan that a master architect has made? Likewise in life, we cannot change what is destined to happen.

Sri Lanka halts fuel sales for two weeks

Bus services between provinces suspended, citizens urged to work from home, schools remain shut

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Fuel-starved: People waiting to buy LPG near the Galle International Cricket Stadium on Tuesday. • AFP

Sri Lanka has suspended island-wide fuel sales, except for essential services, for nearly a fortnight, as the island faces a rapidly worsening economic crisis.

At a press conference on Monday night, Cabinet spokesperson and Transport Minister Bandula Gunawardana said private vehicles would be barred from buying fuel until July 10 after which the government has promised to ensure usual supply. Authorities halted bus services between provinces, and urged citizens to work from home in a bid to save fuel. Schools remain shut.

As fuel shortages intensified over the past couple of weeks, Sri Lanka's roads looked empty, with more vehicles seen parked in long queues outside petrol stations than on the streets. On Tuesday, the capital city was virtually shut down, even as the government hurriedly dispatched its Ministers to Russia and Qatar to seek urgent supplies.

Colombo turns to India

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to India Milinda Moragoda on Monday met Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in New Delhi and discussed the possibility of "securing petrol and diesel supplies that are required by Sri Lanka at present on an urgent basis", the Sri Lankan mission in New Delhi said.

"Minister Puri responded positively in this regard and assured the High Commissioner of all possible support to Sri Lanka at this critical juncture," it said in a statement. India has so far extended nearly $4 billion assistance to Sri Lanka since January 2022, facilitating loan deferments, and by way of currency swaps and credit lines for essential imports. Sri Lanka's Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe recently told *The Hindu* in an interview that Colombo was hoping to receive another credit line worth $500 million from India for fuel imports.

As Sri Lanka awaits emergency supplies from any willing bilateral partner, Minister of Power and Energy Kanchana Wijesekera on Tuesday said the Cabinet approved opening up the country's fuel import and retail sales market to companies from oil producing nations.

"They will be selected on the ability to Import Fuel and operate without Forex requirements from the CBSL [Central Bank of Sri Lanka] and Banks for the first few months of operations," he said in a tweet.

Economic meltdown

The acute fuel shortages have stalled production in the island nation, as farmers and fisherfolk have been severely affected without diesel and kerosene. The aggravating economic meltdown has already sparked fears of starvation and food insecurity.

Earlier this month, the UN put out an appeal for $47 million, seeking "life-saving aid" to 1.7 million people. "Prices have jumped significantly since the end of 2021, forcing families to resort to skipping meals, eating less expensive foods, or limiting portion sizes," the UN had noted.

Russia offensive will end when Ukraine surrenders: Kremlin

Eight killed, 21 wounded in Russian strike on Lysychansk

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
REUTERS
MOSCOW/KREMENCHUK

Workers clearing the rubble at a mall in Kremenchuk on Tuesday, a day after it was hit by a Russian missile. • AFP

The Kremlin said on Tuesday that Russia would halt its offensive as soon as Ukraine surrenders, urging Kyiv to order its troops to lay down their arms.

"The Ukrainian side can stop everything before the end of today," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"An order for the nationalist units to lay down their arms is necessary," he said, adding Kyiv had to fulfil a list of Moscow's demands.

On Monday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky urged world powers to do their utmost to help end Russia's intervention by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, firefighters and soldiers searched for survivors in the rubble of a shopping mall in central Ukraine on Tuesday after a Russian missile strike killed at least 16 people in an attack condemned by the United Nations and the West.

Family members of the missing lined up at a hotel across the street where rescue workers had set up a base after Monday's strike on the busy mall in Kremenchuk, southeast of Kyiv.

More than a 1,000 people were inside when two Russian missiles slammed into the mall, President Zelensky said. At least 16 people were killed and 59 injured, Ukraine's emergency services said.

"This is not an accidental hit, this is a calculated Russian strike exactly onto this shopping centre," Mr. Zelensky said in an evening video address. He said the death count could rise.

More than 40 people had been reported missing, Ukraine's prosecutor general's office said.

A survivor receiving treatment at Kremenchuk's public hospital, Ludmyla Mykhailets, 43, said she was shopping with her husband when the blast threw her into the air.

"I flew head first and splinters hit my body. The whole place was collapsing," she said.

"It was hell," added her husband, Mykola, 45, blood seeping through a bandage wrapped around his head.

Russia has not commented on the strike but its deputy ambassador to the United Nations, Dmitry Polyanskiy, accused Ukraine of using the incident to gain sympathy ahead of a June 28-30 summit of the NATO alliance.

"One should wait for what our Ministry of Defence will say, but there are too many striking discrepancies already," Polyanskiy wrote on Twitter.

The United Nations Security Council will meet Tuesday at Ukraine's request following the attack. UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said the missile strike was "deplorable".

"Russian President Putin and those responsible will be held to account," they wrote in a joint statement tweeted by the German government spokesperson.

Battle for Lysychansk

Elsewhere on the battlefield, Ukraine endured another difficult day following the loss of the of Sievierodonetsk after weeks of bombardment and street fighting.

Russian artillery pounded Lysychansk, Sievierodonetsk's twin city across the Siverskyi Donets River. A missile strike on Tuesday killed eight and wounded 21 others in Lysychansk.

'China's economy recovering but foundation not solid'

Beijing will strive to drive the economy back onto a normal track and bring down jobless rate, says Li

REUTERS
BEIJING

China's economy has recovered to some extent, but its foundation is not solid, state media on Tuesday quoted Premier Li Keqiang as saying.

China will strive to drive the economy back onto a normal track and bring down the jobless rate as soon as possible, Mr. Li was quoted as saying.

"Currently, the implementation of the policy package to stabilise the economy is accelerating and taking effect. The economy has recovered on the whole, but the foundation is not yet solid," Mr. Li was quoted as saying.

"The task of stabilising employment remains arduous."

China's economy showed signs of recovery in May after slumping the previous month as industrial production revived, but consumption remained weak and underlined the challenge for policymakers amid the persistent drag from strict COVID-19 curbs.

China's nationwide survey-based jobless rate fell to 5.9% in May from 6.1% in April, still above the government's 2022 target of below 5.5%.

In particular, the surveyed jobless rate in 31 major cities picked up to 6.9%, the highest on record. Some economists expect employment to worsen before it gets better, with a record number of graduates entering the workforce in summer.

Mr. Li vowed to achieve reasonable economic growth in the second quarter, although some private-sector economists expect the economy to shrink in the April-June quarter from a year earlier, compared with the first quarter's 4.8% growth.

Li Keqiang

Turkey backs Sweden and Finland's NATO bid

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MADRID

Finland's President said on Tuesday that Turkey has agreed to lift its opposition to Sweden and Finland joining NATO, a breakthrough in an impasse clouding a leaders' summit in Madrid.

Sauli Niinistö said the three nations' leaders signed a joint agreement on Tuesday. He said the memorandum "confirms that (Turkey) will at the Madrid Summit this week support the invitation of Finland and Sweden to NATO."

Ankara had earlier blocked the move, insisting the Nordic nations change their stance on Kurdish rebel groups that Turkey considers terrorists.

Scotland eyes independence vote in 2023

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
EDINBURGH

Scotland's government on Tuesday drew the battle lines for a legal and political tussle with London as it announced plans to hold a second independence referendum on October 19, 2023.

Addressing the Edinburgh Parliament, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon conceded that her devolved administration may lack the power to call the vote without London's approval. To ensure legal clarity, it will seek an opinion from the U.K. Supreme Court before it asks voters: "Should Scotland be an independent country?"

Ms. Sturgeon said her government would press the case anew with "commitment, confidence and passion".

Six years ago, Scotland voted to stay in the U.K., and current polls suggest Scots remain evenly divided on the question of independence.

U.K. government says the 2014 plebiscite settled the matter for a generation.

Mr. Johnson vowed to study Ms. Sturgeon's plan "very carefully, and we will respond properly". But he stressed that "I certainly think that we'll be able to have a stronger economy, and a stronger country, together".

Ms. Sturgeon's Scottish National Party (SNP) says the U.K.'s exit from the EU has transformed the debate.

Most Scottish voters were opposed to Brexit, and the SNP-led government said that with a majority of MPs in the Edinburgh Parliament now in favour of independence, Scots should be consulted again.

101-year-old former Nazi guard jailed for 5 years

REUTERS
BERLIN

A German court sentenced a former SS guard, now 101-years-old, to five years in prison on Tuesday for assisting in the murder of some 3,500 people at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, bringing to an end one of the last Nazi trials in Germany.

Prosecutors had said that Josef S., a member of the Nazi party's paramilitary SS, helped to send 3,518 people to their deaths at the Sachsenhausen camp, north of Berlin, by standing guard in the watchtower between 1942 and 1945.

Sachsenhausen housed mainly political prisoners from across Europe.

49 inmates die in Colombia prison riot, fire

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BAGOTA

At least 49 inmates were killed and dozens more injured early on Tuesday after a fire broke out during a prison riot in southwestern Colombia, the national prisons agency said.

The tragedy occurred when rioting inmates set a fire to try to prevent police entering their enclosure at the prison in the city of Tulua, said Tito Castellanos, director of the National Penitentiary and Prison Institute (INPEC).

There were 180 inmates in the prison section affected by fire.

Taliban grand council to assess progress

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

Hundreds of religious leaders and "people of influence" from around Afghanistan have been summoned to the capital to attend a three-day grand council in support of the country's Taliban rule.

Officials are providing scant details of the men-only meeting starting on Wednesday, a week after an earthquake killed over 1,000 people and left tens of thousands homeless.

A Taliban source said thorny issues such as education of girls, which has divided opinion in the group, would be discussed.

Trump told officials to let armed supporters in: ex-aide

Cassidy Hutchinson testifies before House panel

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON

Cassidy Hutchinson

Cassidy Hutchinson, a key aide in Donald Trump's White House, told the House committee investigating the violent January 6, 2021, insurrection on Tuesday that Mr. Trump was informed that people rallying on the mall that morning had weapons but he told officials to "let my people in" and march to the Capitol.

Mr. Trump demanded to be taken to Capitol after 1/6 rally, tried to grab steering wheel from Secret Service agent, she said.

Ms. Hutchinson quoted Mr. Trump as directing his staff, in profane terms, to take away the magnetometers that he thought would slow down supporters who had gathered in Washington. In videotaped testimony played before the committee, she recalled the former President saying words to the effect of: "I don't f-in' care that they have weapons."

"They're not here to hurt me… Let my people in. They can march to the Capitol from here," Ms. Hutchinson testified.

Ms. Hutchison, a top aide to Mr. Trump's chief of staff Mark Meadows, said that she was "scared, and nervous for what could happen" ahead of the riot after conversations with Mr. Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani, Mr. Meadows and others.

Mr. Meadows told Ms. Hutchinson that "things might get real real bad," she said. Mr. Giuliani told her it was going to be "a great day" and "we're going to the Capitol." She described Mr. Meadows as unconcerned as security officials told him that people at Mr. Trump's rally had weapons – including people wearing armour and carrying automatic weapons.

Ms. Hutchinson told the panel that she was apprehensive ahead of time because she had heard plans for a rally and possible movements to the Capitol, where hundreds of Mr. Trump's supporters later violently pushed past police and broke through windows and doors, interrupting the certification of President Joe Biden's victory.

"I had a deeper concern for what was happening with the planning aspects of it," Ms. Hutchinson told the panel.

The 25-year-old has already provided a trove of information to congressional investigators and has sat for four interviews behind closed doors. But the committee called the hearing this week to hear her public testimony.

Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, the committee's chairman, said that in recent days, the panel had received information about what Mr. Trump and his aides were saying during critical hours of January 6 and that it was critical for the American people to hear that information immediately.

The committee's vice-chairwoman, Wyoming Representative Liz Cheney, said the hearing would shed light on Mr. Trump's conduct and action at the time.

Indian Institute of Packaging
E-2, MIDC Area, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400 093
Tel: 022-69192241 E-mail: iipadmin@iip-in.com Website: www.iip-in.com
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) an autonomous body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India Invites sealed proposals / Expression of Interest (EOI) from various interested parties as Project Management Consultants to Construct World-Class Laboratory at IIP Mumbai.
The EOI \ proposals must be submitted in two bid systems (Technical and Commercial) separately along with company profile and clients' list. The detailed scope of work, terms & conditions, and Application form can be downloaded from IIP's website www.iip-in.com and also from Govt. portal (www.eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app).
Last date for submission of EOI is 18th July 2022 up to 18.00 hrs. Sealed envelope marked to the captioned address, containing EOI and non-refundable fees of Rs.10,000/- by way of DD / Pay order in favor of 'Indian Institute of Packaging' payable at Mumbai may be submitted mentioning "EOI as Project Management Consultant to Construct World-Class Laboratory at IIP Mumbai".
Applicants meeting the qualification criteria may be invited for presentation/proposal before the selection committee of IIP. Bid Document will be subsequently issued to the shortlisted applicants only.
Assistant Director (General Administration)
Indian Institute of Packaging

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LIMITED (TCGL)
E-Tendering
Tender is invited by TCGL for Selection of Agency for Organizing Megh Malhar Parv- 2022 on Turn Key Basis at Saputara, Gujarat. Interested bidders/agencies may download the tender document from the website: www.nprocure.com from Dt.29/06/2022 onwards. Tender document may also be referred on www.gujarattourism.com. Managing Director of TCGL reserve the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
Managing Director, TCGL

Telangana State Medical Services & Infrastructure Development Corporation, Director of Health Campus, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad - 500 095, Telangana State
Tender Notice No.2 /TSMSIDC/Medicines wing/2022-23, Dt. 27.06.2022
Tender is invited through e-procurement platform (online) for Procurement and supply of following under Rate contract: Medicines from Manufacturers, Importers and Loan Licenses.
Managing Director, TSMSIDC reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason, For complete details, please visit Web site : https://tender.telangana.gov.in from 29.06.2022 onwards
Sd/- Managing Director
R.O. No. : 348-PPICL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY. e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 1RE12/SE/PHCK/2022-2023. JJM -2022-23 - II nd Phase - Extension of pipelines and Providing FHTCs in Kanjirappally Panchayat. EMD : Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five lakhs only). Tender fee : Rs. 15,000+ (18% GST). Last Date for submitting Tender : 21-07-2022 03:00:pm
Phone : 04812 562745
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Kottayam
KWA-JB-GL-6-432-2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU / WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
VELLAR BASIN CIRCLE, CUDDALORE. Form of Contract : Lumpsum - Item Rate Contract
Tender Notice (Two Cover System) - Sl. No.1 to 3 (Single Cover System) - Sl. No.4 (Percentage System) - Sl. No.5
SHORT TERM - Tender Notice No. 02 / VBC, Cuddalore / 2022-23 / Dt.28.06.2022
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamilnadu, the Superintending Engineer, WRD, Vellar Basin Circle, Cuddalore-607001 invites tender in from eligible tenderers for the work of "(1) Providing protection Wall in Coleroon North Rajan Channel Left Bank from LS 14985m to 16445m at Omampuliyur Village of Kattumannarkoil Taluk of Cuddalore District (Approximate value of Work: Rs.968.00 Lakhs Including GST), (2) Construction of Flood Protection Wall in LB and RB of Middle Paravanar from LS 0.85Km to 7.50 Km in Bhuvanagiri and Kurinjipadi Taluks of Cuddalore District (Approximate value of Work :Rs.1465.00 Lakhs Including GST), (3)Rehabilitation of Willington Reservoir low level channel and its cross masonries in Tittakudi Taluk of Cuddalore District (Approximate value of Work :Rs.1160.00 Lakhs Including GST), (4) Rehabilitation and Modernization of Kondangi Tank in Sandropalayam Village of Cuddalore Taluk in Cuddalore District (Approximate value of Work : Rs.128.00 Lakhs Including GST) and (5) Rehabilitation and Improvements to the Pandalam Anicut in Pandalam Village in Sankarapuram Taluk of Kallakurichi District (Approximate value of Work: Rs.83.70 Lakhs Including GST), and" at his office upto 3.00 P.M on 15.07.2022 in sealed covers. The tender will be opened at 3.30 P.M at his chamber on the same day.
Other informations such as details of Work, Value, EMD, Cost of tender schedule, Qualification Details etc., will be available in the Government website "www.tenders.tn.gov.in". Any Corrections or Modifications will be published on website only.
Superintending Engineer, WRD., Vellar Basin Circle, Cuddalore-1.
DIPR /3074/ Tender / 2022

TWAD BOARD–INVITATION FOR BIDS–TWO COVER–ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM (E-Submission Short term) (Third call)

IFB No.	32/F. Retrofitting /Trichy/JJM/ /SDO/CE-TNJ/2022/Dated 27.06.2022.
Fund	JJM Fund 2021-2022
Eligibility	Registered Class I Contractors
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Integrated Office Complex, First Floor,No.243/2, Thanjavur-Trichy Main Road, Pillayarpatty, Thanjavur-613 403
Sale of Bid	**29.06.2022 to 11.07.2022 up to 17.45 hours (as per server time)**
Available website	E-Tendering website www.tntenders.gov.in.
EMD Payable at	Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Maintenance Division, Trichy
Pre Bid meeting	**05.07.2022 at 11.00** hours at the office of the CE, TWAD Board, Thanjavur
Bid Submission	**12.07.2022 up to 15.00** hours Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering portal www.tntenders.gov.in
Bid opening	**13.07.2022 at 15.30** hours at the office of the Tender Invitee through E-Tendering Portal

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate Value of work (Rs. in Crore including GST)	Bid security (Rs. in lakh)
1	Retrofitting of CWSS to Thumbalam and 26 other habs. in Thathaiyengarpettai union of Trichy District under JJM 2021-22 (Construction period : 9 months and Free Maintenance : 3 months)	Rs. 11.24	Rs. 8.50

DIPR/3067/TENDER/2022
Chief Engineer(i/c), TWAD Board, Thanjavur.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
Superintending Engineer (H)
Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Circle, Saidapet, Chennai - 15.
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No: 03/2022-23/CMDP/DO/dated. 27.06.2022
(Online only)
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage Tender** under **Two Cover System, through online only** for **Division – I** work of 'Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass Road branching from Km 17/4 of Marmalong Bridge – Irumbuliyur Road from Rajakilpakkam (via) Agaramthen Road towards Perungalathur in Km 3/900 - 5/450 including the Construction of drain in the left out stretch at Km 5/450 – 7/000' will be received upto **02.08.2022, 15.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Circle, Saidapet, Chennai-15.
Detailed scope of work, approximate value, EMD, availability of tender document and all other details are available from **01.07.2022** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in** If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H)
CMDP Circle,
Saidapet, Chennai-15.
DIPR/3061/Tender/2022

MARKET WATCH

	28-06-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	53,177	0.03
US Dollar	78.85	-0.61
Gold	50,770	-0.10
Brent oil	117.56	2.42

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	678.05	-9.70
Apollo Hosp	3837.35	42.85
Asian Paints	2726.50	-94.45
Axis Bank	642.35	5.25
Bajaj Auto	3889.00	27.60
Bajaj Finserv	11364.45	-230.70
Bajaj Finance	5576.25	-64.95
Bharti Airtel	681.15	-2.80
BPCL	318.60	3.60
Britannia Ind	3434.70	-24.40
Cipla	945.10	12.75
Coal India	186.40	4.15
Divis Lab	3813.45	-60.00
Dr Reddys Lab	4374.60	54.05
Eicher Motors	2863.80	15.50
Grasim Ind	1343.05	-6.25
HCL Tech	1001.95	9.60
HDFC	2180.85	-13.60
HDFC Bank	1345.90	-10.35
HDFC Life	565.95	7.95
Hero MotoCorp	2766.70	11.20
Hindalco	343.55	13.60
Hind Unilever	2317.65	-3.00
ICICI Bank	710.30	-7.05
Indusind Bank	816.60	-6.90
Infosys	1480.15	5.55
ITC	271.85	1.90
JSW Steel	578.40	6.75
Kotak Bank	1668.80	-22.75
L&T	1551.50	15.70
M&M	1112.00	29.30
Maruti Suzuki	8489.70	40.95
Nestle India Ltd.	17403.90	45.65
NTPC	138.60	0.10
ONGC	149.35	7.85
PowerGrid Corp	210.30	-1.25
Reliance Ind	2527.70	35.05
SBI Life	1078.05	-6.50
State Bank	464.25	3.05
Shree Cement	19236.90	135.40
Sun Pharma	828.60	-7.05
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	736.85	7.45
Tata Motors	417.10	2.60
Tata Steel	878.90	11.05
TCS	3318.15	3.45
Tech Mahindra	1020.70	13.50
Titan	1968.05	-72.25
UltraTech Cement	5572.75	12.50
UPL	656.00	-1.10
Wipro	427.25	2.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 28

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	78.57	78.89
Euro	83.17	83.52
British Pound	96.21	96.60
Japanese Yen (100)	57.68	57.92
Chinese Yuan	11.74	11.79
Swiss Franc	82.26	82.63
Singapore Dollar	56.69	56.93
Canadian Dollar	61.26	61.51
Malaysian Ringitt	17.86	17.95
Australian Dollar	54.61	54.83

Source: Indian Bank

Rate adjustments loom as GST Council meets first time in '22

States urge extension of compensation period, else moot rejig of revenue shares

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council is learnt to have accepted an interim report on the rationalisation of tax rates submitted by a group of ministers (GoM) led by Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj S. Bommai on the first day of its two-day meeting on Tuesday.

Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the proceedings of the Council, convened for the first time in 2022, and will announce the outcomes on Wednesday. Several key decisions are expected, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

Hands tied: Given inflation concerns, a few exemptions may be dropped and just some rates tweaked. • NAGARA GOPAL

While the GoM was also tasked with considering the merger of the several different tax slabs, a larger overhaul has been put off in view of concerns about high inflation. For now, the panel has mooted dropping exemptions on some items and tweaking rates for goods and services plagued by an inverted duty structure.

With the GST regime completing five years, marking the sunset of the Centre's promise of assured revenue levels for States, some Opposition-ruled States urged an extension of the compensation period for another five years. Alternatively, they have mooted an increase in their share of GST revenue.

Chhattisgarh Commercial Tax Minister T.S. Singh Deo said this was particularly vital for manufacturing and mining States which were not large consumers.

"If the protective revenue provision is not continued, then the 50% formula for Central GST and State GST should be changed to SGST 80%-70% and CGST 20%-30%," he suggested.

Oil adds gains on doubts over producers' capacity

Saudi, UAE seen strained to lift output

REUTERS
MELBOURNE/SINGAPORE

Oil prices rallied for a third day on Tuesday as major producers Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates looked unlikely to be able to boost output significantly, while political unrest in Libya and Ecuador added to supply concerns.

Brent crude futures climbed $1.9, or 1.7%, to $116.99 a barrel by 0644 GMT, adding to a 1.7% rise in the previous session.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia have been seen as the only two countries in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with spare capacity available to make up for lost Russian supply and weak output from other members.

"Tight supply news bolstered the market," Commonwealth Bank commodities analyst Tobin Gorey said in a note. "Two major producers, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, are said to be at, or very close to, near-term capacity limits," he added.

G7 leaders are discussing a potential price cap on Russian oil amid high inflation spurred by energy prices.

Rupee tanks on oil surge, FII outflows

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

The rupee plunged by 48 paise to close at record low of 78.85 against the U.S. dollar on Tuesday, weighed down by persistent foreign capital outflows and a surge in crude oil prices.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 78.53 against the greenback and finally settled at 78.85, down 48 paise from its previous close.

"We foresee the rupee-dollar exchange rate to remain weak in the near-term, where it can test 79.20 against the U.S. dollar," Sugandha Sachdeva, VP – commodity and currency research, Religare Broking said.

'Online skill gaming will not survive higher GST'

Tax revenue, not prize money: sector

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Raising the goods and services tax (GST) on online skill games from the existing 18% to 28% could cause the 'demise' of the industry in the country, cautioned three online 'skill gaming' associations. The GST Council began a two-day meeting on Tuesday, with the panel said to be considering an increase in the tax rate on online games of skill.

In a joint statement on Tuesday, the E-Gaming Federation, All India Gaming Federation and Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS) said they were also apprehensive about tax being levied on the total pool (prize money pooled plus the platform commission)

and not on the gross gaming revenue. Such a norm could lead to the 'demise' of the online skill gaming industry in the country, the associations observed.

Global studies have shown that taxing prize money instead of gaming revenue leads to "reduced tax collections for the exchequer and ends up giving a fillip to black-market operators", said Anwar Shirpurwala, CEO of FIFS.

'AI Express may add 4 Boeing 737s to help meet demand'

Dry lease said to be an option to lift capacity in near term

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

The Tata Group-owned international budget airline Air India Express may add four Boeing 737 planes to its fleet of 24 aircraft by this year-end to meet increased demand for international travel, airline sources privy to the information said.

Following the removal of various pandemic-related curbs, aviation had been picking up and demand had bounced back, they said, pointing out that dry leasing was an option to enhance capacity in the short-term.

Air India Express currently has 24 Boeing 737 planes. It lost one plane in the Kozhikodecrash in August 2020.

"Demand for international travel has bounced back after the removal of most pandemic-related restrictions on travel. Loads (passengers on aircraft) are good and all routes are doing well," a source told PTI.

"In the short-term, the airline might take four aircraft on dry lease to increase capacity," the source said, adding that the new aircraft would be utilised to enhance frequency on certain routes.

A query sent to Air India Express did not elicit a response. Air India Express currently operates flights to 11 airports in India and 13 abroad with more than 100 daily flights.

According to another source, the airline had drawn up a business plan in 2018, in which it had envisioned becoming a 50-aircraft company by 2025. "But first, the government did not give us the go-ahead at that time saying that the airline was in its disinvestment plans and then COVID-19 happened," said the source.

'Buyer to deduct TDS on peer-to-peer VDA deals'

Provision will be applicable from July 1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Income Tax Department on Tuesday said both buyer and seller will have to withhold taxes for transactions involving an exchange of one virtual asset for another.

Issuing a further set of clarifications, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) also said according to section 194S of the I-T Act, the buyer would have to deduct tax in a peer-to-peer transaction of virtual digital assets (VDA).

"Thus, in a peer-to-peer (ie buyer to the seller without going through an exchange) transaction, the buyer (ie person paying the consideration) is required to deduct tax under section 194S of the Act," the CBDT said.

The buyer is required to deduct tax under section 194S of the Act

Virtual digital asset

With regard to liability to deduct tax at source under section 194S of the Act when the consideration is in kind or in exchange of VDA, the CBDT said in this situation, the person responsible for paying such consideration is required to ensure that the tax required to be deducted has been paid in respect of such consideration, before releasing the consideration.

The TDS provisions on VDA or cryptocurrencies will be effective from July 1.

IN BRIEF

Akash Ambani named Reliance Jio chairman

MUMBAI

The board of directors of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd. has approved the appointment of Akash M. Ambani, non-executive director, as chairman of the board. His father Mukesh D. Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries Ltd., had resigned as director effective June 27, the company said.

Sundaram Home Finance raises deposit rates

CHENNAI

Sundaram Home Finance (SHF) has revised upwards the interest rates on deposits with effect from July 1. This is the second such revision in a month, according to the company. Senior citizens and trusts would now get an interest of 7.50% per annum on four- and five-year deposits against 6.55% paid earlier, while individuals, other than senior citizens, would get 7% (6.05%), SHF said in a statement.

Indus Life forays into D2C wellness, beauty space

CHENNAI

Indus Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd., an exporter of pharmaceuticals and consumer products, has announced its foray into the direct-to-consumer (D2C) wellness and beauty space with the introduction of wellness brand 'The Co Being' for the Indian market. 'The Co Being' would have three sub brands - Sigoori (general wellness), Minaya (intimate wellness) and Krinka (beauty), it said.

Tata Motors to increase CV prices from July 1

MUMBAI

Tata Motors has announced a price increase of 1.5-2.5% on its range of commercial vehicles (CVs) from July 1. "While the company takes extensive measures to absorb a significant portion of the increased input costs, at various levels of manufacturing, the steep rise in overall input costs makes it imperative to pass on a residual proportion via a minimised price hike," the company said.

May credit card spend crosses ₹1.13 lakh crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Credit card spending has crossed ₹1.13 lakh crore in May compared with ₹1.05 lakh crore in the previous month, according to official data.

The month-on-month rise in spending through cards indicates a pick-up in economic activity.

The latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed that 7.68 crore credit card holders spent about ₹71,429 crore for buying online, while the amount was spent through swipes at Point of Sale (PoS) machines stood at ₹42,266 crore in May.

In terms of the number of transactions, credit card payments were marginally lower online at 11.5 crore against 12.2 crore offline or at PoS machines.

Tata Sons' largest investor Mistry dead

He held 18.4% in Tata holding company

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Pallonji Shapoorji Mistry (93), the former chairman of Shapoorji Pallonji Group passed away 'peacefully' on Tuesday at his home in south Mumbai, his family said in a statement

He is survived by wife Patsy, daughters Laila Rustom Jehangir, Aloo Noel Tata, sons Shapoor Mistry and Cyrus Mistry and their respective families. An Irish citizen, he mostly stayed in India and always remained low profile.

Called the 'Phantom of Bombay House' (the headquarters of Tata Group), Mistry held 18.4% stake in Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata Group making him 'the single largest shareholder.'

His younger son Cyrus was chairman of the Tata Group for a few years till 2016.

Towards end '60s, he participated in the construction boom in West Asia

Mr. Mistry was born on June 1, 1929, and had his schooling and college education in Bombay before joining his family business, Shapoorji Pallonji & Company Ltd., in the year 1947 at the age of 18.

He took over the reins of the company in 1975, when his father passed away.

Towards the end of the 1960s, Mistry ventured abroad and participated in the construction boom in West Asia, which was being fuelled by petrodollars.

He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2016.

Shriram Properties eyes zero debt in 2 years: MD

Current net debt stands at ₹350 crore

N. ANAND
CHENNAI

Shriram Properties Ltd. (SPL) aims to be a zero-debt company in 18 to 24 months, following an uptick in demand for mid-market housing segment, said CMD M. Murali.

"Currently, we have a net debt of ₹350 crore," Mr. Murali said in an interview.

"About 21 projects are under construction. They will be completed and sold in 12-15 months, while we expect to clear the debts in 18-24 months," he added.

According to him, the company has 45 ongoing projects in Chennai, Bengaluru, Vizag, Kolkata and Hyderabad totalling 51 million sq. ft. In Chennai alone, SPL is developing seven properties (14 million sq.ft.).

M. Murali

He also said the prices of mid-market housing are set to rise by 10-15% due to increase in demand and input costs and dip in supply. The current price of mid-market housing is ₹5,000 per sq. ft. SPL was also planning to increase prices by 8-10% in a phased manner from July.

SPL, which ranks among top 10 players, also hopes to touch ₹2,000 crore in topline against ₹1,600 crore registered last year.

ICL completes Springway acquisition

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The India Cements Ltd. on Monday completed the acquisition of Springway Mining Pvt. Ltd. (SMPL), making the firm ICL's wholly owned subsidiary.

"We wish to inform you that our company has completed acquisition of the entire paid-up equity and preference share capital of SMPL, and SMPL has become a wholly owned subsidiary of our company with effect from June 27," India Cements said in a filing. The entire equity and preference shares of SMPL were acquired at a total consideration of ₹182.89 crore. The acquisition was completed on Monday.

ICL had announced the acquisition of SMPL during October 2018.

Hosting Chess Olympiad a matter of pride for Tamil Nadu: Stalin

Former India footballer Arumainayagam and athlete Barath Sridhar honoured by the Chief Minister and Malini Parthasarathy at *Sportstar*'s South Conclave

SPORTS CONCLAVE

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, speaking at *Sportstar*'s South Sports Conclave on Tuesday, said that hosting the Chess Olympiad in Chennai (July 28 to August 10), the world's biggest chess event, was a proud moment for the State.

"Hosting the 44th Chess Olympiad is a matter of pride for the State of Tamil Nadu. More than 200 countries and 1000 players will participate for the first time in Chennai. Because of the war in Ukraine, FIDE decided to drop Russia, which was going to host it. A lot of countries worked hard to host the tournament. With AICF, we decided to bring it to India. Our government was able to make quick decisions and did all the necessary work expeditiously and we got it [hosting rights].

"To host this event, the State government has set aside ₹92.13 crores. This conclave comes at the right time. *The Hindu* Group has chosen the right time to host this," Stalin said during his keynote address.

Former India footballer Isaiah Arumainayagam and athlete Barath Sridhar won the HeroMotoCorp Unsung Champion and Emerging Hero honours respectively at the *Sportstar* South Sports Conclave.

Rewarding excellence: Isaiah Arumainayagam being honoured by M.K. Stalin and Dr. Malini Parthasarathy as Viswanathan Anand and L.V. Navaneeth look on. • M. VEDHAN

The duo was honoured by Stalin and Dr. Malini Parthasarathy, chairperson, THG Publishing Pvt. Ltd. Chess legend Viswanathan Anand and *The Hindu* CEO L.V. Navaneeth were in attendance.

"As *Sportstar* seeks to entertain and enthral our audiences with sharp and live narrating of major games and sports as they unfold, we also see it as our mission to raise consciousness in our country of the need to become a major sporting nation.

"We want to reach out to youth, to participate in the national endeavour to build skills in grass-root sports and to identify new talent that will be an asset to our country.

"Our Chief Minister has shown a lot of zeal and commitment to this important cause, and he has made clear that he will do his bit to make Tamil Nadu a State that will be a reservoir of sporting talent and raise the bar for sports here. Right from the beginning of his tenure, Thiru Stalin has underlined the importance of honouring the role of sports as a team-building and morale-boosting aspect of our society," Dr. Parthasarathy said.

Meanwhile, the TN CM also expressed his love for cricket.

"I am a big fan of cricket and played while I was Mayor. I never miss out on watching a game. Dr. Kalaignar [M. Karunanidhi] would always watch cricket amidst his busy schedule," he said.

Sponsors

The conclave was held in association with Hero We Care, a Hero Motocorp CSR Initiative, K J Somaiya Institute of Management, JK Tyre, FIIT-JEE Global School, Indian Oil, Nippon Paint and Casagrand and Radio City.

McGrath hails Warne as the 'ultimate competitor'

Former India coach Arun recalls how Shami wanted to quit cricket but turned things around

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Australian fast bowling great Glenn McGrath described former teammate and late leg-spinner Shane Warne as the "ultimate competitor."

"It has been a pretty tough year. We got through two years of COVID-19, and then I lost three really close friends... Rod Marsh, Warnie and Symonds. It has been tough," McGrath said during a panel discussion on *Role of High-Performance Centres in Achieving Excellence in Sports* at *Sportstar's* South Sports Conclave here.

The session was moderated by *The Hindu*'s Sports Editor K.C. Vijaya Kumar.

"Warnie was one of the most amazing guys I've ever met. He was a normal bloke like the rest of us, but lived an extraordinary life. Off the field, he got himself into a little bit of trouble. But on the field, he was the ultimate competitor. He loved the challenge that you got from bowling to the best batters."

On the ball: McGrath and Arun, seen with Vijaya Kumar who anchored the panel discussion, answered questions with aplomb on a variety of subjects. • M. VEDHAN

McGrath recalled Sachin Tendulkar's controversial "shoulder before wicket" dismissal at the Adelaide Oval in December 1999.

"Trying to remember that one (chuckles)," McGrath said. "I have had a few chats with Sachin about this one. It was an attempted bouncer that didn't bounce, and he went to duck under it. Sachin is not very tall. So, when he ducked it hit him on the shoulder. But from where I was looking, I could see the stumps and I thought that was out. Sachin still thinks it was going over the stumps by a good foot."

Former India bowling coach Bharat Arun revealed how Mohammed Shami emerged as one of India's top fast bowlers.

After a stellar series in South Africa in 2018, Shami failed a fitness test and was left out of the one-off Test against Afghanistan and the A-tour of England.

"I remember an incident when Shami was going through personal problems. We were about to go on the A-tour of England. Shami had failed a fitness test.

"He walked up to Ravi (Shastri) and me, saying he was very angry with life and wanted to give up the sport," Arun said.

"We sat him down and told him that anger was the best thing that can happen to a fast bowler. We told him that if he channelises his anger and uses it to get fitter, he could do wonders.

"We sent him to the NCA where he trained exceptionally hard. I remember him calling me in England and saying 'now I am as strong as a horse, and I am ready to take on the world'. The rest is history."

'At any price, I wanted M.S. Dhoni'

Srinivasan reveals how Super Kings signed the mega star

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings, a franchise owned by N. Srinivasan's India Cements, set the ball rolling by giving a $1.5 million start to the inaugural IPL auction in Bengaluru in 2008. Speaking at *Sportstar's* South Sports Conclave, Srinivasan revealed how CSK signed Dhoni.

"At the IPL auction, I missed the first two picks. I had asked V.B. Chandrasekhar – former Test cricketer from Tamil Nadu – to hold the baton. At any price, I wanted M.S. Dhoni. The reason I felt very confident was because I felt the others did not know arithmetic.

"They had said that they will give 10% [15%] more to the icon player, because they all wanted an icon. Punjab wanted Yuvraj Singh, Delhi wanted Virender Sehwag, Bangalore Rahul Dravid, Mumbai Sachin Tendulkar. They asked me, I said no. My father taught me some arithmetic. I figured out if 1.5 million out of five went to the icon players – then what are you left with to get the rest of the 22."

Masterstroke: Dhoni landed in Chennai only because of the arithmetic, says N. Srinivasan. • M. VEDHAN

Dhoni's bidding started from the base price of $400,000 and by the time the bids crossed the $900,000 mark, only Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings were in the fray.

"Suddenly, Mumbai was bidding up to 1.5 million for Dhoni. Then they realised that they have to give the icon player 10% [15%] more than what they give the most expensive player.

"They said 3.5 million, everything gone, and they collapsed. And that is how M.S. Dhoni came to Chennai. It was 100% arithmetic. No other reason why we got him [Dhoni]," he said.

Mithali bats for promotion of team sports in schools

Anju recounts the hurdles she had to overcome; Alisha, Anjali also part of discussion moderated by Sudha Shah

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Mithali Raj, former captain of India women's ODI and Test teams, said on Tuesday that schools need to promote team sports if they want to encourage more girls to take up cricket as a hobby.

"Over a period of time, the schools probably stopped encouraging girls or maybe they felt having a team sport is very difficult when it comes to girls and that is why I have been hearing the panellists talking about tennis or badminton or individuals sports," Mithali, who joined virtually, said during a panel discussion titled 'Encouraging Girls To Play in Sports & Communities' at *Sportstar*'s South Sports Conclave in Chennai.

"They feel it is better to invest in individual sport... and that is why a lot of girls move to individual sports. But to have a school team, you will need a specific number of players.

"So it comes down to schools to encourage to form the team and encourage the girls so that if any girl represents India in the U-19 World Cup, the school will have the honour of having an international player.

Changing scenario

"That said, in the last few years, we have seen an increase in the ratio of girls taking up the sport. Not only in the school level, but a lot of them come up [taking it up as a profession]. It's no more a hobby. And with the central contracts and the Women's IPL scheduled next year, clearly, a lot of things are happening at a bigger level in women's cricket."

Anju Bobby George, the only Indian to have won a medal in the World Championships with a long jump bronze in the 2003 edition, spoke about the hurdles she had to overcome as a young female athlete.

"When my mother decided to send me to athletics, some of my relatives were pointing out things like I'll get dark, the shortness of my clothes, and how all this might affect my family life and so on.

"But slowly, when my photo started coming on paper, they also started accepting," she said.

Recollecting an interesting anecdote, Anju added: "Back in my time, the European athletes used to wear two pieces, but I was not ready to wear that. That was a mindblock for me also.

"I was a Nike athlete and it used to send me two pieces and I decided to wear that in the Grand Prix (which was outside India) and there I won a medal.

"The next day, a huge photo of mine was printed in the front page of newspapers. And my first thought was 'Oh my god! What do I do now?"

Alisha Abdullah, Indian motorsports racing driver, and Dr. Anjali Chopra, MBA Sports Management, KJ Somaiya Institute of Management, were also part of the panel discussion moderated by former India cricketer Sudha Shah.

Women power: Sudha Shah, centre, moderated a session with Mithali, Alisha (both via video conferencing), Anjali and Anju in attendance. • B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Hooda's maiden ton highlights India's victory

Samson scores 77; Men in Blue narrowly survive Ireland's spirited chase

INDIA IN IRELAND

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBLIN

India beat Ireland by four runs in the second and final T20I to clinch the two-match series 2-0 here on Tuesday.

Opting to bat, India posted a huge 225 for seven with Deepak Hooda top scoring with 104, while Sanju Samson contributing 77.

The Indians then restricted Ireland to 221 for five to win the match. Captain Andy Balbirnie top scored for Ireland with 60 while opener Paul Stirling made 40. Harry Tector and George Dockrell chipped in with 39 and 34 not out respectively.

For India, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Ravi Bishnoi and Umrah Malik took a wicket apiece.

India had won the first match by seven wickets.

India's tour of NZ

India will tour New Zealand for a white-ball series comprising three T20Is and as many ODIs after the World T20 in Australia, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said on Tuesday. The series will be held from Nov. 18-30 and New Zealand will visit India for a white-ball series in January 2023..

In full flow: Hooda smashed a 57-ball 104. • AFP

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Sanju Samson b Adair 77 *(42b, 9x4, 4x6)*, Ishan Kishan c Tucker b Adair 3 *(5b)*, Deepak Hooda c McBrine b Little 104 *(57b, 9x4, 6x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Tucker b Little 15 *(5b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Hardik Pandya (not out) 13 *(9b, 2x4)*, Dinesh Karthik c Tucker b Young 0 *(1b)*, Axar Patel c Dockrell b Young 0 *(1b)*, Harshal Patel b Adair 0 *(1b)*, Bhuvneshwar Kumar (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (b-4, w-6, nb-2): 12; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 225.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-13 (Kishan, 2.1 overs), 2-189 (Samson, 16.2), 3-206 (Suryakumar, 17.3), 4-212 (Hooda, 17.6), 5-217 (Karthik, 18.5), 6-217 (Axar, 18.6), 7-224 (Harshal, 19.5).

IRELAND BOWLING

Adair 4-0-42-3, Little 4-0-38-2, Young 4-0-35-2, Delany 4-0-43-0, Olphert 3-0-47-0, McBrine 1-0-16-0.

IRELAND

Paul Stirling b Bishnoi 40 *(18b, 5x4, 3x6)*, Andy Balbirnie c Bishnoi b Harshal 60 *(37b, 3x4, 7x6)*, Gareth Delany run out 0 *(4b)*, Harry Tector c Hooda b Bhuvneshwar 39 *(28b, 5x4)*, Lorcan Tucker c sub (Chahal) b Umran 5 *(9b)*, George Dockrell (not out) 34 (16b, 3x4, 3x6), Mark Adair (not out) 23 *(12b, 3x4, 1x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-7, w-8, nb-4): 20; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 221.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-72 (Stirling, 5.4), 2-73 (Delany, 6.3), 3-117 (Balbirnie, 10.3), 4-142 (Tucker, 13.4), 5-189 (Tector, 17.1).

INDIA BOWLING

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-46-1, Hardik 2-0-18-0, Harshal 4-0-54-1, Bishnoi 4-0-41-1, Umran 4-0-42-1, Axar 2-0-12-0.

Toss: India.

Man-of-the-Match: Hooda.

India won by four runs to clinch series 2-0.

Nadal survives scare; Swiatek extends winning run

Spaniard loses a set before beating Cerundolo; Berrettini tests positive, pulls out

WIMBLEDON

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Rafael Nadal overcame a scare in his Wimbledon opener on Tuesday, fighting back from dropping the third set and falling a break down in the fourth to eventually see off Argentina's Francisco Cerundolo.

Second seed Nadal, playing on grass for the first time since his 2019 Wimbledon semifinal loss to Roger Federer, won 6-4, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 over 41st-ranked Cerundolo, who was making his All England Club debut.

But the 36-year-old Spaniard, who has already captured the Australian and French Opens this year to stand halfway to the first men's calendar Slam since 1969, did it the hard way.

After coasting through the first two sets on Centre Court, he surrendered an early break in the third set and then had to claw his way back from 3-1 and 4-2 down in the fourth.

"Three years without being here on this amazing surface, it is amazing to be back," said Nadal. "We don't play very often on grass, especially in my case. In the last three years I didn't put a foot on the grass."

Title contender Matteo Berrettini was forced to pull out after testing positive for Covid-19 even as top seed Iga Swiatek extended her winning streak to 36 matches.

Berrettini was widely regarded as one of the biggest threats to defending champion Novak Djokovic, having captured back-to-back grass-court titles in Stuttgart and Queen's.

Women's World No. 1 Swiatek entered the second round with a 6-0, 6-3 win over qualifier Jana Fett.

Smooth start: Swiatek dropped just three games in her match against Fett. • AFP

IMPORTANT RESULTS

First round: Men: 1-Nadal (Esp) bt Cerundolo (Arg) 6-4, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; Johnson (USA) bt 18-Dimitrov (Bul) 4-6, 5-2, ret-d.;Kyrgios (Aus) bt Jubb (GBr) 3-6, 6-1, 7-5, 6-7(3), 7-5.

Murray (GBr) bt Duckworth (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; Lajovic (Srb) bt 16-Carreno-Busta (Esp) 3-6, 6-4, retd.; 12-Schwartzman (Arg) bt Kozlov (USA) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

Women: 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt Fett (Cro) 6-0, 6-3; Cornet (Fra) bt 27-Putintseva (Kaz) 6-3, 7-6(5); Tomljanovic (Aus) bt 18-Teichmann (Sui) 6-2, 6-3; 4-Badosa (Esp) bt Chirico (USA) 6-2, 6-1; 11-Gauff (USA) bt Ruse (Rom) 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.

5-Sakkari (Gre) bt Hives (Aus) 6-1, 6-4; 12-Ostapenko (Lat) bt Dodin (Fra) 6-4, 6-4; Wang (Chn) bt 14-Bencic (Sui) 6-4, 5-7, 6-2.

Bouzkova (Cze) bt 7-Collins (USA) 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; 15-Kerber (Ger) bt Mladenovic (Fra) 6-0, 7-5; 25-Kvitova (Cze) bt Paolini (Ita) 2-6, 6-4, 6-2; 16-Halep (Rou) bt Muchova (Cze) 6-3, 6-2.

Fallen seeds

- **Men:** 7-Hurkacz, 16-Carreno-Bustad, 18-Dimitrov
- **Women:** 7-Collins, 14-Bencic, 18-Teichmann, 22-Trevisan, 23-Maia, 27-Putintseva, 31-Kanepi

LIVE TELECAST

Sri Lanka vs Australia: 1st Test, day 1, Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 10 a.m.

The Championships 2022: SS Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m. onwards

IN BRIEF

Yuki advances

MALAGA (SPAIN)

Qualifier Yuki Bhambri bt Andrey Kuznetsov 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 in the first round of the €45,730 Challenger tennis tournament in Malaga, Spain, on Tuesday.

Other results: $15,000 ITF, South Bend, USA: Doubles: Final: Siddhant Banthia and James Kent Trotter (Jpn) bt Felix Corwin and Noah Schachter (USA) 6-2, 7-6(3).

$15,000 ITF women, Monastir: First round: Jennifer Luikham bt Astrid Cirotte (Fra) 7-5, 2-6, 6-2.

'70s hockey star Varinder passes away

Varinder.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Olympic and World Cup medallist Varinder Singh, who was an integral part of some of India's memorable victories in the 1970s, died in Jalandhar on Tuesday morning. He was 75.

Varinder Singh was part of the gold-winning Indian team at the 1975 men's Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur. He was also part of teams that won bronze at the 1972 Munich Olympics and silver at the 1973 World Cup in Amsterdam.

Also among his collection is silver from the 1974 and 1978 Asian Games. The Indian hockey stalwart also featured in the 1975 Montreal Olympics.

In 2007, Varinder was conferred the prestigious Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award.

Hockey India mourned Varinder Singh's death. "Varinder Singh's achievements will be remembered by the hockey fraternity worldwide," it said in a release.

Vidya, Varshaa to represent India

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Vidya Pillai and Varshaa Sanjeev will represent India at the IBSF World 6-Red snooker championship, the venue for which is yet to be announced.

The duo finished one and two overall at the end of two selection camp tournaments held here.

In the boys' under-16 15-red snooker, Mayur Garg, G. Srikanth, Mayank Karthik and Laxminarayan will represent the country at the IBSF World under-16 snooker championship to be held from August 15 to 18 in Bucharest, Romania.

Anand calls for more women players

Chess found a way to beat COVID-19 with online games, says the five-time world champion

CONCLAVE

SPORTS BUREAU
CHENNAI

Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand on Tuesday hoped for more women's chess players to break through the ranks in the country.

Anand was in conversation with R.B. Ramesh at *Sportstar's* first-ever South Sports Conclave here. "It is very easy to feel very optimistic about India's youngsters on the boys' side but not on the girls' side," Anand said during a panel discussion titled 'Chess and Chennai'.

"Women like Dronavalli Harika, Koneru Humpy, Bhakti Kulkarni and Tanya Sachdeva are still doing well even though they have been around for a while.

"The new ones aren't really breaking through. I hope this Olympiad will spark something off.

Masters of the game: Anand, in conversation with Ramesh, feels the new women players aren't really breaking through and hopes the Olympiad will provide the spark. • M. VEDHAN

"Globally we need more women taking part in the game. It is a global problem. The India-specific thing is that Humpy and Harika are still very dominant. I wish them well, but it would be good if they had more competition from youngsters."

Olympiad held online

In 2020, when COVID-19 brought sporting activities to a halt, chess found a way to beat the dreaded virus. Online games featuring players of all standards, from beginners to GMs, were being played across time zones. In late August 2020, India was crowned the joint winner, along with Russia, at the online Chess Olympiad. This was the first time the prestigious event was held virtually.

Anand weighed in on the ease of playing chess online. "As long as you use it for learning purposes where you train specific skills it is very healthy. But when you get into an addiction, you want to play one more game because you want to swindle in one time.

"You are not trying to improve any more but just trying to score and that is unhealthy. It has to be done more consciously."

The 44th Chess Olympiad will be held in Chennai from July 28 to August 10. The Olympiad, which was moved out of Russia after it invaded Ukraine, was awarded to Chennai recently, making it the second major global event of the sport to be held in India after the 2013 World Championship between Anand and Magnus Carlsen.

AFI withdraws Seema, walkers from Worlds

ATHLETICS

STAN RAYAN

The Athletics Federation of India has withdrawn former Asian Games discus throw champion Seema Punia and race walkers Rahul and Bhawna Jat from next month's World Championships in Oregon, USA.

Seema, who qualified for the Worlds with 63.72m at the Patiala inter-State Nationals soon after the entry gates opened in June 2021, has not come anywhere close to that mark after that. In fact, her best this year is 55.97m.

Meanwhile, 20km race walker Rahul had qualified for the Worlds in February 2021, while Bhawna is on the 67th spot in the Road to Oregon rankings with a chance to make the cut (top 60 qualify). Both had competed in last year's Olympics.

The lack of performance appears to be the reason for pulling out Seema – who has won a medal in each of the last four editions of the Commonwealth Games – and the others from the Worlds.

Dabas ejected

Meanwhile, the AFI has removed quartermiler Ayush Dabas from the National coaching camp as he was found in possession of syringes and needles in his room at the quartermilers and relay runners camp in Thiruvananthapuram early this month.

"We have a no-needle policy (to fight doping). There were surprise checks and all rooms were checked by Sports Authority of India and AFI-designated coaches," Sumariwalla told *The Hindu* on Tuesday. "The checking was done on June 8 and he was asked to leave the camp on June 9."

Affordability restricting the sport: Narain

Wants federation to be more proactive

Needed stimulus: Jayasimha, Santosh, Narain and Armaan, seen with moderator S. Dipak Ragav, hope for relaxation in restrictions to help the sport grow. • B. VELANKANNI RAJ

MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

India's first-ever F1 driver Narain Karthikeyan, in a panel discussion on motorsports at *Sportstar's* South Sports Conclave, said affordability was the biggest factor hurting the sport's growth prospects.

"There was an uplift in interest when we had an Indian driver, the Force India F1 team and the Indian GP. After that it has been stagnant... I think affordability is the biggest factor restricting the sport," said Narain.

Giving an insight into the expensive nature of motorsports, Narain said, "The basic import duty structure is nearly 60% of the cost by the time the kart comes to India."

Proactive

Narain also wanted the federation to be more proactive in lobbying with the ministry and government. "Just writing letters is not enough. There needs to be proactive lobbying to get concessions so that we, who run teams, can find the next set of drivers by making it affordable," he said.

Reflecting on the challenges as an administrator, Balakrishna Jayasimha, Executive - Sporting, FMSCI, felt some of the broad-based decisions from the government hurt the sport.

He cited the examples of import restrictions on tyres or the demand for ISI certification of crash helmets – already the best in the world in terms of safety and quality – as those that had a negative impact.

"We want the government to consult with stakeholders like us when they make decisions."

Armaan Ebrahim, a former F2 racer and co-founder of the X1 Racing League, said that creating the right platform from karting to single-seater racing is crucial to produce racers who can compete at the global level.

"After karting, we did not have good a proper championship. We are now starting Formula 4 and Formula Regional India which are FIA-sanctioned events that give super license points. More importantly, it opens the door for drivers to access sponsors."

C.S. Santosh, the first Indian to compete at the Dakar Rally, said that age restriction to start on small bikes has to be lowered if Indians have to compete with the best in the world.

"We have lots of people in colleges who can participate in motorsports as engineers. We should take these to the forefront and move things forward."

India hopes to go one better this time

It's all about taking it one match at a time, says captain Savita

WORLD CUP

UTHRA GANESAN
NEW DELHI

The Indian women's hockey team finished fourth at the Tokyo Olympics and its performance since then has been followed by increased expectations at the World Cup starting in three days' time.

Captain Savita Punia knows the burden too well but is confident of her teammates enough to dismiss any talk of pressure. The team lost to eventual silver medallist Ireland in shootouts in 2018 and Savita hopes to go one better this time around.

Fine margins

"A World Cup or Olympics is a special event and every team is there to win. It's all about fine margins and Ireland did finish second in 2018 so it wasn't like we lost to a weak team.

Savita. • FILE PHOTO

"But there were definitely things we could have done better in the shootout back then and we have worked on those things since then," Savita told *The Hindu* during the team's pre-departure interaction from Bengaluru.

"What we have learnt as a team is that concentrating on our own performance is the only way to get better results. The difference this time is that we have played some very good games with the top teams in the Pro League (India finished third).

"Our preparation has been in the right direction, but we are also aware that once the actual tournament starts, all the preparation and training comes down to those 60 minutes on that day. It's all about taking it one match at a time," she added.

Key absences

The absence of talismanic Rani Rampal upfront and Deepika Thakur in defence will be a big hole, but Savita isn't willing to let it affect the youngsters on the field.

"Both these players have been integral to the team for many years, but to be honest, we did have pressure on us in the Pro League as well because we were participating in it for the first time and we wanted to let people know that the Indian team was as good as any and wasn't there only to make up the numbers.

"Their presence would have obviously been a great help, but every player in this team has a role and not performing is not an option.

"The younger players are all so honest and dedicated, I am proud to be a part of this team," she insisted.

India will open its campaign in Pool B against England on July 3 with New Zealand and China the other teams.

West Indies sweeps series

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GROS-ISLET (ST. LUCIA)

West Indies wasted no time on a day when more than five hours were lost to the elements to complete a 10-wicket victory over Bangladesh on the fourth day of the second and final Test here on Monday. It extended the Windies' Test-winning streak to three.

Overnight showers left a sodden outfield and prevented play until mid-afternoon, but West Indies claimed the last four wickets swiftly.

The scores: Bangladesh 234 & 186 in 45 overs (Najmul Hossain 42, Nurul Hasan 60 n.o.; Kemar Roach 3/54, Alzarri Joseph 3/57, Jayden Seales 3/21) lost to West Indies 408 & 13/0 in 2.5 overs.

Player-of-the-Match: Kyle Mayers; *West Indies won by 10 wickets and two-match series 2-0.*

Morgan ends a memorable journey

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON

Eoin Morgan confirmed his retirement from international cricket and stepped down as England's white-ball captain on Tuesday.

He led England's to its first global 50-over title at the 2019 World Cup, and the No. 1 ranking in One-Day Internationals and Twenty20 Internationals. It enjoyed series victories against every major team and 60% success on his watch.

"To call time on what has been without doubt the most enjoyable and rewarding chapter of my career hasn't been an easy decision, but I believe now is the right time to do so, both for me, personally, and for both England white-ball sides I have led to this point," said Morgan.

My ultimate dream is to win an Olympic medal: Nikhat Zareen

BOXING

RAHUL IYER
BENGALURU

Nikhat Zareen is a winner. Since 2010, when she was just 14 years old, success has chased and caught up with her. Her victories at various youth and senior boxing championships in the past decade came to a head in May this year when she won gold (52kg flyweight) at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships in Istanbul.

On Tuesday, she was in the city for the opening of a new adidas store. After rounds of photo ops and a walkthrough of the store, a smiling Zareen, whose face still displays a hardened and steely look, reflective of a resolve that is an essential part of her character, says, "[When I was young], I used to see a lot of girls in other sports, but not in boxing."

Nikhat Zareen. • K. MURALI KUMAR

"So I asked my father why was it that boxing was only for boys? He said that society thinks women are not strong enough for this sport. That is what challenged me to take up boxing."

When asked about the possibility of raised expectations for the upcoming Commonwealth Games, she says, "The expectation will definitely be there, but I won't take that pressure upon myself.I will work twice as hard and give my 100%."

Zareen sees familial support as a crucial part of any young athlete's development.

"Support from the family is very important. Especially in my setting, because not many women went out. [So], I am blessed to have parents who are so supportive. I can only request those parents whose kids want to achieve their dreams and play sport to support them. Support them, and definitely they will make you proud one day."

About plans to take up professional boxing (Zareen is still an amateur boxer), she is still undecided. "I haven't thought about it. My ultimate dream is to win an Olympic medal. After that, we will see."

Prannoy moves up

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KUALA LUMPUR

H.S. Prannoy and the doubles pairing of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty moved into the second round of the Malaysia Open Super 750 badminton tournament, here on Tuesday. But, B. Sai Praneeth, Sameer Verma and the Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy pair could not cross the first hurdle.

The results:

Men: H.S. Prannoy bt Daren Liew (Mas) 21-14, 17-21, 21-18; B. Sai Praneeth lost to Anthony Sinisuka Ginting (Ina) 15-21, 21-19, 9-21; Sameer Verma lost to Jonatan Christie (Ina) 14-21, 21-13, 7-21.

Doubles: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Man Wei Chong & Kai Wun Tee (Mas) 21-18, 21-11.

Women: Doubles: Ashwini Ponnappa & N. Sikki Reddy lost to Nami Matsuyama & Chiharu Shida (Jpn) 15-21, 11-21.

The captaincy question is asked more often in cricket than many others

Skippers are most effective when their place in the side is assured and have the support of both players and officials

BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

One of the questions cricket hasn't been able to answer conclusively concerns the captaincy of a team. Does it require a set of special skills denied to the average player or can anyone with experience and common sense lead a side?

The Mike Brearley Syndrome haunts the game. Here was a great captain who probably might not have found a place in the England team on batting alone, yet led in 31 Tests, winning 18 of them and losing just four.

When England were struggling, he returned as captain and authored one of the most remarkable comebacks in a series, against Australia in 1981, inspiring his predecessor Ian Botham to new heights.

Only Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting have far superior win percentages (Virat Kohli's is marginally better), but they had the consistently superior teams.

As good as the team

One of the cliches of the game, to stand alongside the one about glorious uncertainties and the effect of catches on matches, states that a captain is only as good as his team.

But a great captain can raise the performance of a middling team rather in the manner of a top driver overcoming the challenges of a mediocre car in Formula One.

The captaincy question asks itself afresh when you realise that in a little over a year, India have had seven captains across formats: Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, K.L. Rahul, Ajinkya Rahane, Shikhar Dhawan, Rishabh Pant, and the latest, Hardik Pandya, with Jasprit Bumrah waiting in the wings.

Injuries, birth of a child, Covid-19 protocols have led to this. Perhaps it is not such a bad thing to be able to call upon a range of captains – especially since overlapping tours are likely to become the norm if white ball cricket is granted a divorce from the red ball game in bilateral series.

When the Dhawan-led team were in Sri Lanka, Kohli-led India were in England for the series there. Of the two teams in the British isles just now, one was under Pandya in Ireland and the other in England. On the last tour of Australia, India showed they could easily field two or three international teams simultaneously.

While white ball captains can quickly emerge as contenders for the Indian captaincy – Pandya's elevation was based on a single season of the IPL – Test captains need their time. Theoretically, of course, with 38 teams in the Ranji Trophy, there are that many potential India captains.

But not all of the 38 find a place in the team on batting or bowling skills. And although India have picked a player for his captaincy alone – the Nawab of Pataudi against the West Indies in 1974-75, after he was finished as a batsman – that is not the norm.

Support staff impact

The Brearleys and Pataudis are exceptions, and less likely to lead now since teams travel with a huge set of coaches and technical men who crunch numbers all day, and work out weaknesses of the opposition. The captain's role has diminished, but he will still rise or sink by the calls he makes on the field.

The support staff, unavailable to the likes of Brearley and Pataudi, does make a difference as the appointment of Brendon McCullum has made to the England team.

Yet, it is still the captain who makes the final call on the field, and with a positive, aggressive captain like Ben Stokes and the talent to back up his attitude with either bat or ball,

England have shown how important the man leading is. Joe Root may be a great batsman, but England might not have won all the Tests against New Zealand in the recent series had he remained in charge.

This is an intriguing aspect of cricket, a game where most things are measurable. No one has worked out how to compute captaincy. Cricket ratings are popular, but captaincy ratings do not exist.

We look for intuition, tactical acumen, ability to get the best out of the players – none of which can be quantified. As often in cricket, the simple calculations don't tell the full story.

Best do not always lead

The best captains do not always lead the national side. From M.L. Jaisimha and Erapalli Prasanna to Anshuman Gaekwad and Arun Lal,

India have had effective captains at the First Class level who never led the country either because the incumbent was well established or they themselves couldn't hold down a place in the national side.

When a fine tactician like Srinivas Venkatraghavan led, he was always under pressure not knowing if he had the support of his colleagues and having to look over his shoulder all the time.

Captains are most effective when their place in the side is assured, when they have the support of both players and officials. The best, however, come out on top even when conditions are against them.